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ALBANY'S TERCENTENARY

America's Oldest City

1624

1924



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Historical Narrative
Souvenir

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TANNER

D. C. TROW

1624

THE TERCENTENARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE
NEW NETHERLAND AND THE FIRST SETTLE-
MENT AT FORT ORANGE, NOW THE CITY
OF ALBANY, IN THE STATE OF NEW
YORK, IN THE YEAR SIXTEEN HUN-
DRED AND TWENTY--FOUR

1924

THE
FEDERAL
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JANUARY 1, 1941
TO THE
DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM THE
SAC, NEW YORK
SUBJECT: [illegible]

HONORARY CHAIRMEN



Governor
Alfred E. Smith



Mayor
William S. Hackett

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

May 26 to June 30 Loan Exhibition, Albany Institute.

May 19 to June 7 Manuscript and Document Exhibition, Education Building.

SATURDAY, May 31

2:15 P. M. Boy scout rally championships, Lincoln Park.

2:30 P. M. Girl scout field day, Croquet Grounds, Washington Park.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

10:30 A. M. Official commemorative service, First Reformed Church; commemorative exercises in the various churches with special music programs. (The service in Temple Beth Emeth will be held on Friday evening, May 30.)

3:00 P. M. Union service in Harmanus Bleecker Hall. Address by Rev. William H. S. Demarest, D.D., LL.D.

MONDAY, JUNE 2

11:00 A. M. Invited guests assemble in executive chamber.

11:15 Opening exercises on capitol steps.

1:00 P. M. Luncheon for guests, Fort Orange Club, by Holland Society.

2:00 Regatta on river commences.

2:30 Pageant of first settlers, Riverside Park. (Water sports, canoe races, etc.)

4:30 Reception for guests, Schuyler Mansion, Schuyler Street.

7:00 Historical pageant, Washington Park; to be followed by band concert, Lake House; after dark historical moving picture, Pieter Stuyvesant.

8:30 Entertainment at Yacht Club for visitors.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

9:00 A. M. Regatta on river.

10:00 Invited guests assemble in Mayor's Office.

10:30 Unveiling of portrait of Pieter Schuyler, first mayor of Albany.

11:30 Transfer of Fort Crailo to State Commission, parade of decorated boats past the fort.

2:00 P. M. Tercentenary Parade.

- 7:00 Historical Pageant, Washington Park, to be followed by band
 concert, Lake House; after dark historical moving picture,
 Pieter Stuyvesant.
- 8:30 Dance at Yacht Club, presentation of prizes.
- 9:00 Commemorative exercises, Chancellor's Hall. Address by Pro-
 fessor A. J. Barnouw.
- 9:30 Costume Ball, State Armory.

TERCENTENARY PARADE

HISTORICAL DIVISION

INDIAN PERIOD—PRIOR TO 1624

(East End of the Long House)

Indians, or of Indian Descent. Arthur C. Parker, Chairman Indian Division.

DUTCH PERIOD—1624 to 1664

(New Netherland)

Descendents of Dutch Settlers. Miss M. V. W. Patterson, Chairman Descendents' Division.

Dutch, or of Dutch Descent. Rev. John Struyk, Chairman Dutch Division.

COLONIAL PERIOD—1664 to 1776

English, or of English Descent. Ogden Stevens, Chairman English Division.

Scotch, or of Scottish Descent. William Reid, Chairman Scottish Division.

Irish, or of Irish Descent. John H. Harrigan, Chairman Irish Division.

French, or of French Descent. Rev. E. J. Suprenant, Chairman French Division.

CHARTER PERIOD—1686

(Oldest Chartered City in the United States)

Charter of Albany, 1686. William J. Armstrong, Chairman Charter Division.
(Featured by the Knights of Columbus.)

REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD—1776 to 1789

(Period of the Patriots)

Sons of the Revolution. Dr. Charles K. Winne, Jr., Chairman Revolutionary Period.

Daughters of the Revolution. Mrs. William W. Lenox, Chairman Revolutionary Period. (Featured by the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution.)

STATEHOOD PERIOD—1789 to 1924

(The United States of America)

Germans, or of German Descent. Philip C. Hausman, Chairman German Division.

Italians, or of Italian Descent. Hugo de Francisco. Chairman Italian Division.

Norwegians, Swedes and Danes. O. W. Lindstedt, Chairman Scandinavian Division.

Poles, or of Polish Descent. Walter Scyzmanski, Chairman Polish Division.

Greeks, or of Grecian Descent. John Cobates, Chairman Greek Division.

Lithuanians, or of Such Descent. Anthony B. Glebatis, Chairman of Lithuanian Division.

 EPISODES

- Evolution of Albany Citizenship. Sydney T. Jones, Chairman Citizenship Episode. (Featured by the Rotary Club.)
- First Steamboat, 1807, and First Railroad, 1826. Daniel Chase, Chairman Transportation Episode. (Featured by the Kiwanis Club.)
- The Erie Canal, 1825, and the American Waterways. Dr. Elwin W. Hannock, Chairman Waterways Episode. (Featured by the Exchange Club.)
- The Beginnings of the Electricity, 1831. Frederick Townsend, Chairman Joseph Henry Episode. (Featured by the Albany Academy.)
- First Agricultural Society, 1832. William Blodgett, Chairman Agricultural Episode. (Featured by Albany County Agricultural Society.)
- Albany in the Civil War, 1861. William Chatham, Chairman Civil War Episode. Mrs. Anna M. Kuhn, Chairwoman Civil War Episode. (Featured by G. A. R. and Ladies of the G. A. R.)
- Albany in the Spanish American War, 1898. Eugene H. Hayford, Chairman of Spanish War Episode. (Featured by the Spanish War Veterans.)
- Albany in Foreign Wars. Reynolds K. Townsend, Chairman of Foreign War Episode. (Featured by Veterans of Foreign Wars.)
- Albany in the World War, 1918. David H. Walsh, Chairman of World War Episode. (Featured by the American Legion.)
- Evolution of Scouts. George D. Elwell, Chairman Scout Division. (Featured by Fort Orange Council B. S. of A.)
- Deeper Hudson and Albany of the Future. Roy S. Smith, Chamber of Commerce, Chairman Future Albany Realty. (Featured by the Chamber of Commerce.)

 FRATERNAL DIVISION

Composed of

Knights of Pythias, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, The Masonic Fraternity, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, The St. Francis Commandery of the Knights of St. John, The Red Men, Albany County Girl Scouts, Daughters of America, Knights of Columbus, Boy Scouts of America and other organizations. Fraternal Organizations marching or presenting floats.

MILITARY DIVISION

Troop B, First Cavalry, New York National Guard, Albany Cadet Battalion, The Christian Brothers Association Cadet Battalion, Tenth Infantry, New York National Guard, Attachment of the 102nd Medical Regiment, and other units.

COMMERCIAL DIVISION

Various Commercial and Business Houses of Albany, marching as units or presenting floats.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF MONTANA
HELENA, MONTANA

1624



1624

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

THE STORY OF ALBANY

*The glory of our City
is the glory of
America*

1924

1924



THE STORY OF ALBANY

1624-1924

AN HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

IN FIVE PARTS

- A FOREWORD..... By John Boyd Thacher 2nd.
PART I. INDIAN PERIOD..... By Arthur C. Parker,
 II. DUTCH PERIOD..... By Arnold J. F. Van Laer,
 III. ENGLISH COLONIAL PERIOD By Peter Nelson,
 IV. REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD. By Alexander C. Flick,
 V. STATEHOOD PERIOD..... By Cuyler Reynolds.

FOREWORD

By *John Boyd Thacher, 2nd*

ALBANY, 1624-1924

Many years have come and gone since Albany was young, since sturdy Burghers passed their way upon its lanes and streets. Dominionship hath changed and changed again! Quaint old customs, manners, dress, long since discarded, remind us of the charm of ancient yesterdays.

The choice of place, our age, the blood of Dutch and English with other strains commingled, have built a City year by year that yields to none in beauty, progress, or in pride of things well done.

We celebrate Three Hundred Years that, in their passing, here and there, have marked a deed, an epoch in our growth, the growth of State and Nation. Three hundred glorious years that have built from out the wooded hills that gave it birth a City rich in tradition, rejoicing in a full contribution to the development of the state and nation, imbued with the spirit of progress and happy in a prosperity founded, in large measure, upon habits of thrift and upon principles of integrity handed down from generation to generation.

Stockaded village first beneath the flag of Netherlands, expanding under changing rule yet changing slowly, keeping much of early thought and vigor to guide it on the way, Albany hath fairly won its place in History. That we have reached the Tercentenary of the Settlement of Albany gives us pride. The journey down the years, however, does not end in Albany. The road goes on and on, north and south and west. Long has it been travelled and deep has it been worn by the feet of hardy pioneers, the trail-makers, the road-builders, the track-layers, the builders of the homes, the farms, the factories,—Empire builders, the makers of these great United States of America.

It is a story of romance filled with charm and fraught with meaning which we would tell in such a way to take you back and have you seem to scan, from vantage hills, the mighty river and the site that harbors us ere yet the Dutch had settled it; have you live again in fancy when Albany was young; have you see the trading post, Fort Orange, a wilderness around; have you feel the rugged strength of men who lived in Honor, wrought with Patience, and worshipped God with Tolerance.

Honor, Patience, Tolerance!

What better creed on which to rear a City!

Then would we have you caught by march of progress, go with it down the years, a part of it, warm with its triumphs, proud of its achievements, and eager for the years to come.

For, as you go, you can not help but eager be, since, though you may not dwell in Albany, the Glory of our City is your Glory and the Glory of your City rejoices us, as after all, who built our City builded Yours, and helped to build America.

The Building Made Them One!

The narrative that follows outlines the history of Albany from its beginning and is divided into five periods.

- I. The Indian Period
By Arthur C. Parker, *State Archaeologist.*
- II. The Dutch Period
By Arnold J. F. Van Laer, *State Archivist.*
- III. The English Colonial Period
By Peter Nelson, *Head of the Manuscripts and History Section, State Library.*
- IV. The Revolutionary Period
By Alexander C. Flick, *State Historian.*
- V. The Statehood Period (From Revolutionary Period to Date)
By Cuyler Reynolds, *City Historian, Albany, N. Y.*

The historical value and accuracy of the narrative are thus determined. It has more. It has within its pages, Romance, Adventure,—Purposeful—Creative.



HENRY HUDSON, 1609

THE CAPITAL DISTRICT OF INDIAN DAYS

By *Arthur C. Parker*

IN the days when supreme the red man ruled the continent there was a wonderland known as Mahikan-aki. This was the country of the Mahikan, powerful allies of the Lenni Lenape and kinsfolk of the Minsi.

The Mahikan people, like their allies, were members of the great Algonkian linguistic stock, the most widely distributed aboriginal race in all America. One must not identify the Mahikan tribes with the Mohegan people of Connecticut, though much confusion has arisen in modern accounts from making that mistake. The Mahikan or Mahican tribes belonged to the same racial group as the Mohegan, but each was politically independent.

The Mahikan people lived on both sides of the Hudson and one of their principal villages was on the river flats just below the present Albany steamboat landing. This, however, was one of their trading posts, and their great town was at Schodack where lived their Peace Sachem. From this vantage point was ruled the Mahikan dominion, and here came the ambassadors, the sagamores and visiting kinsfolk from far and wide. Thus, in remote times, before the white man came, the red men had made this region a "Capital District," for nature with her mighty forces had seemingly conspired with man to effect this destiny.

The land of Mahikan-aki extended from Lake Champlain on the north to Catskill Creek on the south where lived the Minsi people. Their eastern bounds were in the Berkshires in Massachusetts, and their western posts were on the Mohawk near Schenectady. On the eastern side of the river their territory extended as far as Poughkeepsie where it adjoined the domain of the Wappanger confederation. Mahikan-aki was a territory shaped like a great oval, the lower end of which had slipped into a point on one side. It embraced the counties of Washington, Rensselaer, Columbia and a part of Dutchess on the east side of the Hudson and took in most of Berkshire county in Massachusetts and Bennington and Rutland counties in Vermont. On the west side of the Hudson it embraced the eastern portions of Warren, Saratoga, Schenectady, Albany and Greene counties. People of the River, though they were, they held forth upon three of the most picturesque mountain regions of the North,—the Adirondacks, the Berkshires and the Catskills.

This beautiful region formed the crossroads of aboriginal traffic, and it was not long before a powerful outer people began to dispute the right of the Mahikan nation to its sole occupancy. After the great Huron war which sent the Mohawk nation into the valley which now bears their name, the Mohawk began to press eastwardly and en-

deavored to reach the banks of the Hudson. In various encounters the Mohawk people were successful and did occupy parts of the Hudson valley on the west side, perhaps even extending their conquests across the river into Rensselaer County, but when the Dutch came, the Mohawk warriors were far on the other side of the sand plains, called by them Schenectady.

It was a full century before the settlement of Albany, under the name of Fort Orange, that Verazzano sailed up the river that led northward from the bay of the Manhattans. He was greatly interested in the natives and recorded with considerable detail his contact with them. The Indians whom he saw were depicted as of good proportions, of middle stature, broad across the breast, strong in arms and well formed. The chiefs who came aboard his vessel he writes "were....more beautiful in form and stature than can be possibly described." Continuing his account he states, "In size they exceed us, their complexion is tawny, inclining to white, their faces sharp, their hair long and black, their eyes black and sharp, their expression mild and pleasantgreatly resembling the antique." Of the women he wrote, "...of the same form and beauty, very graceful, of fine countenance and pleasing in manners and modesty."

Eighty-five years later, in September 1609, Henry Hudson sailed up this very river and on September 18th moored his vessel, the Half Moon, off the present site of Albany. His journey had been one of exploration and adventure, and the narrative which he wrote is full of references of great interest to historians.

Within the territory of the Mahikan at Catskill he found, to quote the record, "....a very loving people." They provided him with corn, pumpkins and tobacco, and used him well. At Hudson he found the castle of an old sachem who governed a village of 40 men and 17 women. Here he was entertained in a great long house with an arched roof, and fed upon freshly killed game served in well made wooden bowls. Hudson was urged to stay over night but said that he preferred to go back to his ship and would not remain, whereupon they concluded that he was "afraid of their bows and arrows, and taking their arms they broke them and threw them in the fire." It is evident from all testimony that the Mahikan wanted to bestow friendship and establish a feeling of confidence. The mysterious pale-faced strangers who came on winged, swimming birds might be the all powerful beings who inhabited the celestial world, and it behooved the red men to treat them well. Yet, it was not long before they began to suspect that the strangers did not understand certain elemental principles of etiquette and courtesy. It was a violation of these things that brought about a subsequent feeling of hostility and suspicion.

At Albany Hudson invited the Indians to come aboard his ship, and to test their true intentions gave them liberal portions of *aqua vitae*. They all waxed merry and one became actually drunk. That night all



SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

Superintendent for the British Crown of the Indians of North America, particularly the Six Nations. This picture is reproduced from the collection of historical water colors owned by Frank L. Reuss.

but the intoxicated old man left the ship. On the following morning the visitors returned and were glad to find their kinsman recovered from his debauch. They then set out to their castle and brought Hudson gifts of beads and tobacco, made an oration and showed him the country round about. And thus came the Dutch into the heart of the land of the Mahikan people. Fifteen years later, in 1624, a serious attempt was made to form a settlement, this falling fast upon several previous attempts.

The first white settlers found the Indians living in little hamlets surrounded by fields and gardens. Their houses were of bark and built in the form of long grape arbors. Holes in the bark roofs provided openings for the smoke of the fires within. There were probably more than forty villages scattered along the Hudson and upon sheltered streams back in the hills. The capital town was called Schodac and here lived their principal Sachem.

The Mahikan people were governed by a great Sachem who was assisted by a board of sub-chiefs, at least one of whom lived in each village or hamlet. The great Sachem or Wi-gow-wauw had as his co-advisors a War Chief called a Hero or Mo-quau-pauw, and a Chief Orderly called an Owl or Mkhooh-que-thoth. His messenger held the title of Runner or Un-nuh-kau-kun. The duties of the Sachem are delineated in an old account written down by one of their own wise men. Says the ancient record:

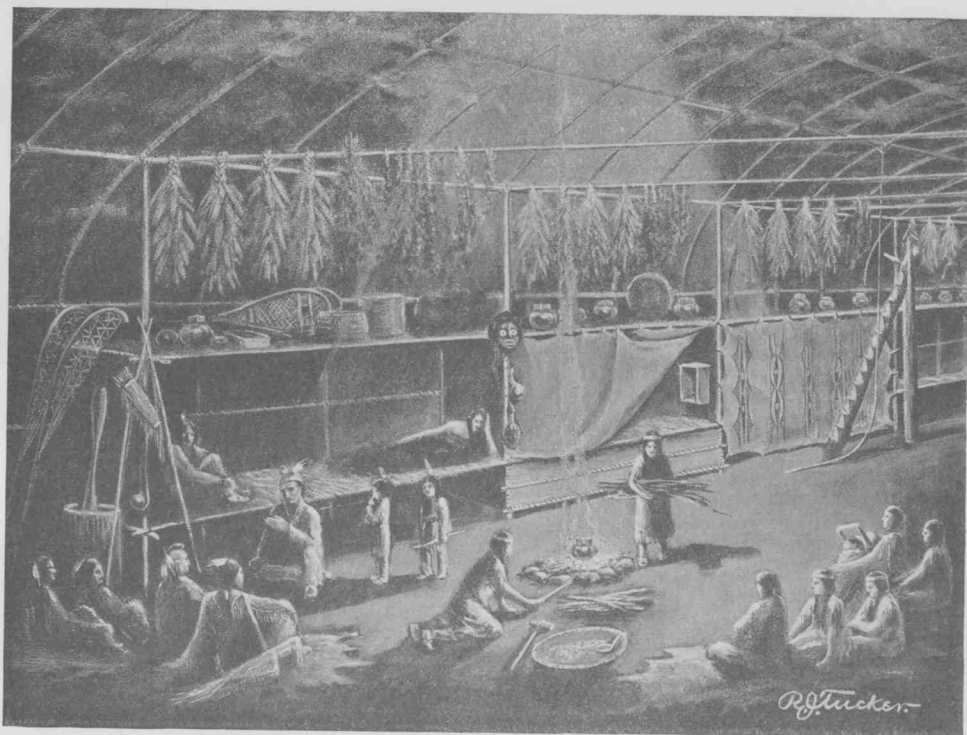
The Sachem is looked upon as a great tree under whose shade the whole nation is sit. His business is to contemplate the welfare of his people day and night—how to promote their peace and happiness. He also ever take pains to maintain and brighten the belt of friendship with all their allies. When he find any business of public nature, he is to call his counselors to consult with them; and then they will determine what is good for the nation. The Sachem must be a peaceable man—has nothing to do with wars—but he is at times go from house to house to exhort his people to live in unity and peace. The Sachem has no stated salary for his services, for it was a disgrace or reproach any man to ask reward for any of his public services; but whatever he does for his nation must be done out of friendship and good will.

One finds it difficult to see how a Sachem of the Mahikan Nation lived, since he received no salary and could not hunt. We are told, however, in the Mahikan record that the people of the village provided food, the warriors brought pelts and meat, the women dishes of corn and root foods and even handsome trinkets, that their Sachem might be properly adorned. It was the Sachem's duty to keep the Mnoti or "peace bag," the pouch of sacred pledges and wampum belts. In the Mnoti also were the strings of wampum that formed the national treasury. According to

custom the great peace bag could not be removed from the Sachem's residence, nor could he forsake it without renouncing his office.

When the councillors of the nation, after due consultation with the women, had decided that war must be declared, the government was turned over to the War Chief until peace was proposed when the Sachem again took the reins and conducted peace negotiations. There was thus a dual government.

The Mahikan people were careful of their dress and clothing and all the early explorers mention the taste and neatness displayed by them in these matters. Ruttenber says that their clothing is described as being



INTERIOR OF INDIAN BARK LODGE

This is a typical interior of an Indian lodge, such as used by the Mahikan people of the Hudson River region. From a painting by Richard J. Tucker.

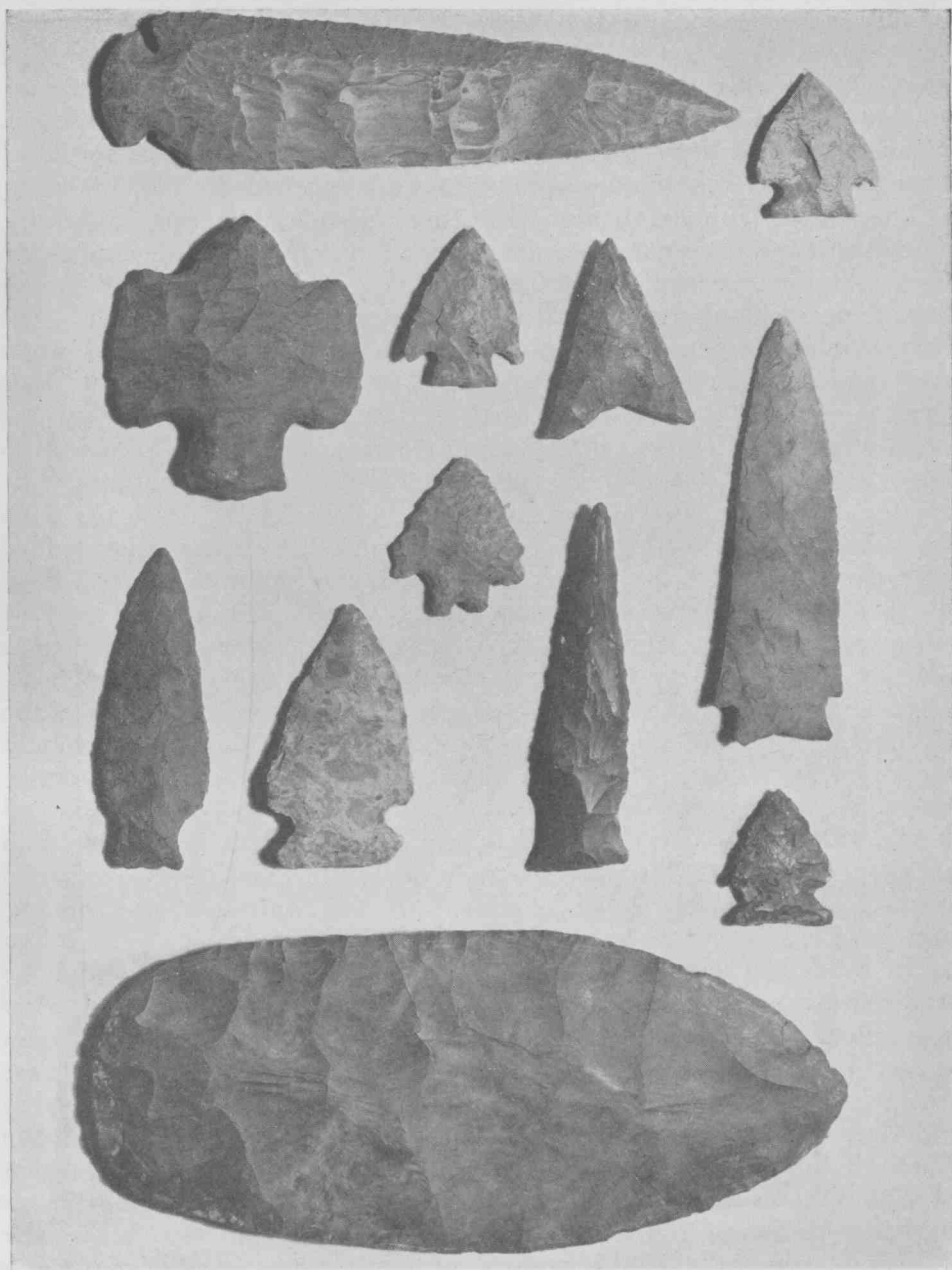
"most sumptuous" and that the women ornamented themselves more than the men. He quotes a description of the girdles worn by them and made either of the fin of a whale or of sewant (wampum). They had cloaks or mantles of soft skin completely covered with the feathers of birds and when the young men wished to look especially attractive they wore "a band about their heads, manufactured and braided of scarlet deer hair interwoven with soft shining red hair." "With this headdress," says Van der Donck, "they appear like the delineations and

paintings of the Catholic saints," and he adds, "when a young Indian is dressed in this manner he would not say *plum* for a bushel of plums. But this decoration is seldom worn unless they have a young woman in view."

Ruttenber also thought that the dress of the Indian maiden was far more attractive than any which civilized life has produced, and he again quotes Van der Donck as saying, "The women wear a cloth about their bodies, fastened by a girdle, which extends below their knees, and it is as much as an undercoat; but next to the body, under this coat, they wear a dressed deer skin coat, girt around the waist. The lower body of the skirt they ornament with great art, and nestle the same with strips which are tastefully decorated with wampum. The wampum with which one of these skirts is ornamented is frequently worth from one to three hundred guilders." Van der Donck's observations also inform us that the hair was dressed in such a manner that it was gathered like a club behind, in the form of a beaver's tail, and that their bonnets were square caps ornamented with wampum. Some desiring to appear especially attractive, after their fashion, wore bands about their heads, displaying thereby their smooth raven hair. Their necks were ornamented with costly beads and with necklaces of various pendants, while their arms were made attractive by bracelets and arm-bands. The keen eyed Dutchman noted that the dress of the forest women was cut very low, "Their breasts appear about half covered with an elegantly wrought dress," he says, and then goes on to say that while generally the natives marry but one wife and no more, "unless it be a chief who is great and powerful; such frequently have two, three or four wives, of the neatest and handsomest of women, who live together without variance." So attractive were these dark eyed maids of the Mahikan race that Ruttenber states, "The Dutch made wives of many of them, refusing to leave them for females of their own country." This is so far true that many prominent families of Dutch descent in this region may trace a Mahikan strain in their ancestry.

According to their traditions, the Mahikan people came with the Lenape from the far west, and after crossing the Mississippi, pushed eastward in the hope of discovering a river as beautiful as the one upon which they had long lived in the land of the sun-set,—in the land called by them Ukhkokpeck. Finally they came to a shining stream of great width and found its shores luxurious with wild rice. Here they determined to erect their homes and to build their fires and "hang a kettle." Others of their ranks marched down the river and one great division pushed far southward upon the Delaware. From these branches the numerous sub-tribes were descended, always recognizing their kinship to their "grandfathers."

Once established, they found their great town upon the present site of Albany and called it Pempotowwuthut-Muhhcanneuw, meaning "the fireplace of the Mahikan nation." They had other important



FLINT BLADES AND POINTS

** From Mahikan sites along the Hudson River collected by Jefferson D. Ray of Coxsackie.
State Museum Collections.*

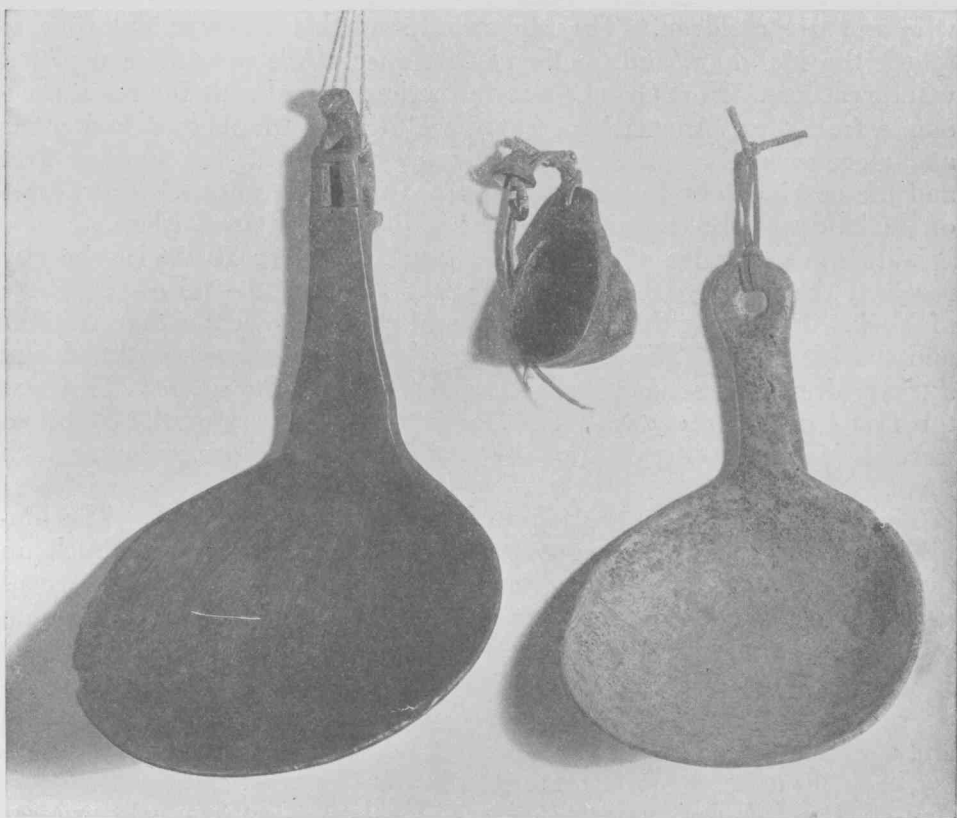
towns at Castleton, Cohoes, Poebles Island, Troy and Lansingburg, while to the south in Columbia county were at least two important villages inland and several along the river. If the original Albany had a difficult name, Troy has a simpler one; Panhoosic. The government of these settlements rested in the hands of the village Sachem and his council, but as all the people had a vote upon public matters, the Mahikan nation was in reality a primitive democracy and remained so until the War Chief took command when military law prevailed.

The Dutch enjoyed peace with these people, generally speaking, though there were provocations enough on both sides to bring about warfare. At Fort Orange the settlers seemed to be of a different temper than those of Manhattan Island where Fort Amsterdam was built. The Indians made a sharp distinction between the two places, and while they made war on Fort Amsterdam and its inhabitants, they left Fort Orange secure. At the lower end of the river the settlers seemed unduly harsh and provoked war upon slight grounds, such as the stealing of a peach by an Indian woman, but at Fort Orange the settlers while more patient with such things, made up an hundred fold for the little depredations by cheating the Indians unmercifully when they traded with them. One of the practices of which the Mahikan hunters complained was that "runners" from Fort Orange assailed them as they came to the town to trade, and took away their beaver skins and other peltries, either stealing them or paying prices far from sufficient.

Two years after the 1624 settlement of the Dutch at Albany, the Mohawks again entered into a contest with the Mahikan and fought their way to the river, laying claim to the right to penetrate and trade, but at no time does it appear that the Mahikan were conquered, and it was fifty years afterward before the River Indians were forced to acknowledge the Mohawk as master. The Dutch at Fort Orange held themselves as neutrals so far as possible in the contests of the Indians, but could not always maintain that attitude. The allies of the Mahikan to the south had been killed and otherwise offended by Hudson and the tradition lingered with them, to be intensified by frequent acts of aggression. This made it difficult for the Mahikan people to keep peace. In 1622 Jacob Elkins who was superintendent of trade at Fort Nassau, on the Hudson, one of the first Albany settlements, ascended the Connecticut to trade and while there seized and imprisoned the Chief of the Sequin tribe and refused to release him until a ransom of 140 fathoms of wampum had been paid. Forcible seizure and restraint were among the most serious of high crimes in the eyes of the Mahikan, especially if this were done while posing as being upon a peaceful mission. All the River Indians were aroused, and none more so than the Mahikan. The Dutch discharged Elkins, and to appease them Commander Kriekbeck of Fort Orange in 1626 joined the Mahikan forces against the Mohawk, supplying also six of his soldiers.

The Mohawk, however, put the Mahikan to flight and in the battle killed Kriekbeck and three Dutch soldiers. Peter Minuet, thereupon, ordered the Fort Orange Dutch to observe strict neutrality in the future, lest the Mohawk might seek some stern reprisal against the little colony.

It was not long before friction again appeared, and in 1643 the Mahikan marched to the Manhattan settlements to demand tribute. The Manhattan fled to surrounding villages and Director Kieft being reminded that "God had now supplied the opportunity," fell upon the



WOODEN LADLES OF THE MAHIKAN

These great ladles were made by the Mahikan and used by them in their feasts. The small object in the center is a cup. From the collections of the N. Y. State Museum.

Indians and massacred them. Neither old men, nor mothers with babes were spared. De Vries who saw the terrible tragedy describes the butchery in plain language and laments that such horrors could be committed by Christian people. "Even the Indians," he states, ".... were unwilling to believe that men professing the Christian name could be guilty of so gross a violation of Christian principles."

Hostility against the Dutch spread to the Wappangers allies of the

Mahikan, who on the following September seized the Dutch boats on the river and killed "nine Christians, including two women." Their raids became numerous and hostile, and they killed unsuspecting settlers after treacherously deceiving them. It was not until 1645 that peace was established, but this was soon broken and the horrors of the Esopus war followed.

As time went on the Mahikan warriors by the very force of events were drawn in to the conflict and killed some cattle in Greenbush and fired the house of Abram Staats at Claverack (Stockport), killing his wife and two children. The Mohawk found this a convenient time to attack the Mahikan, and, while at first successful, were soon repelled with great loss. Fort Orange was in panic and had sent for re-enforcements from Fort Amsterdam, but the Dutch of Manhattan had other and more serious troubles. The bay was filled with the English fleet and the roaring sound of cannon boomed over the waters. The forces of England were knocking against the walls of New Amsterdam.

With the surrender of Fort Orange on September 10, 1664, the city received the name of Fort Albany, after the second title of the Duke of York. Following this came a general council with the Five Nations and the Mahikan. The initial policy of the English was outlined and a treaty drawn up setting forth the rights of all subscribers. This was the first English treaty with the Iroquois, but as part of the Mahikan were in Massachusetts, they already enjoyed peaceable intercourse with them.

The years that follow are years of treaty and of purchase. The Mahikan capital town was removed to W-nahk-ia-kook, or Westenhuck on the Hoosatic and the tribe, shrunken in numbers, became known as the Stockbridge. Here they were the subjects of English and Moravian missionary effort, and the tribe became completely Christianized. The Reverend Samson Occum, an ordained Anglican clergyman, was a product of these efforts, and indeed, many of the converts attained education and distinction. Among these was Capt. John Konkapot, a man of industry, temperance and fair dealing; but by far the most distinguished was Captain Hendrik Aupaumut who served loyally in the Revolutionary war and afterward was sent on important missions to western tribes. Nor were the Wappanger people without their hero in the person of Daniel Nimham, who mustered the Mahikan and other River Indians, took command, and fought under Washington in the campaigns about New York. The Hudson River Indians to a man were loyal to the Patriot cause, but while they were away fighting for the new country of the Thirteen Fires, they lost their own homeland through seizure by Adolph Philipse, who took it under guise of an old grant, which had released to him a portion of the adjacent land. For many years the descendents of these red patriots sought redress in the courts, and when the last had passed away the case was still pending.

During the years just preceding the English occupation the Five Nations of the Iroquois had risen to a position of power unmatched by any of the aborigines of the continent. They had destroyed the Huron, the Erie and neutral nations and held the Andaste in check. Their raids into Ohio, Virginia, and along the Mississippi demonstrated the strength



JOSEPH BRANT (THAYENDANAGEA)

War Captain of the Mohawk Nation, a Mohawk of unalloyed lineage, British agent under Sir William Johnson and uncompromising friend and supporter of the Crown cause. Joseph Brant was born in 1742 and died in 1807.

and energy of their warriors. The French at first treated them as foes but soon found it necessary to court their favor, and upon occasions did receive their support. This was due very largely to the work of the French missionaries, whose labors among the Iroquois present an example of zealous heroism without parallel. Hundreds of converts were added to the Church and many pious Indians moved to the French settlements at Montreal and Quebec. Father Jogues who labored amid great danger among the Mohawk towns at length suffered a cruel martyrdom, but as a shining result of his mission Katherine Tekakwitha embraced the faith and became a power for Christianity through her piety and steadfastness to the Church. In recent years Katherine, the "Lily of the Mohawks," has been canonized as a saint.

After the coming of the English the Six Nations began to transfer their allegiance to the new colony. The change was gradual and was fostered both by the fear that the French desired to crush them and carry their converts as vassals to the walls of the Canadian towns, and by the overtures of the British who were engaged in a mortal rivalry with the French for dominion. At length the Iroquois, stung by the punishment they had received, turned upon the French and destroyed nearly all their settlements from Michilimackinac to the mouth of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In espousing the cause of the English they saved this region for an English speaking people.

In this struggle against the French, King Hendrick, the son of a Mahikan father and a Mohawk mother, stands out prominently. He was a stalwart advocate of the English cause, and while in command of his forces at the Battle of Lake George in 1755 lost his life in that memorable struggle. It is significant that in him was combined the best blood of both Mohawk and Mahikan and that it manifested itself in the production of a true nobleman of the wilds. With fitting justice Colonel Hendrick may be taken as the typical red man of the Capital district.

As the years went on another Indian rose to prominence in the person of Thayendaneagea, or Captain Joseph Brant. As the agent and adviser of Sir William Johnson, his influence among the Six Nations was dominant, and he did more to hold his people in check than any other power. Cementing them to the cause of the English colonists and against the French, he effectively destroyed all hopes of French dominion in the Middle Atlantic area. It was quite natural that when the Revolution broke out he should remain loyal to the British and hold his people to England's royal cause. Brant was fairly well educated, had been in England where he was a court favorite and his brother-in-law was Sir William, himself. Whatever may have been his friendship for the patriots, he found that he could only continue his support to the Crown, and if he fought savagely, it must be remembered that his Tory commander fought with far more brutality and that his barbarism was even revolting to the Indians.



KING HENDRICK (Soi-en-ga-rah-ta)

Sachem of the Mohawk Nation, son of a Mahikan father and a Mohawk mother, Colonel in the British colonial forces and stalwart friend of English civilization. Hendrick was born 1680 (circa) and lost his life in the Battle of Lake George under Johnson in 1755. He may be taken as Albany's typical Indian. One of his most celebrated orations was delivered at the Albany Conference in Albany, 1754. Painting by Wm. A. McKenna, owned by Frank L. Reuss and reproduced by his permission.

Not all the Iroquois, however, clung to the British. The Tuscarora, the Oneida and our own Albany Mahikan warriors had been under the instruction of Rev. Samuel Kirkland and the missionaries at Stockbridge. These Indians understood the merits of the controversy between the Crown and the colonists, and though at first pledging neutrality, at length they took the field as the first Americans for the new America that was to be established. They fought under Washington and Lafayette, they marched their forces up and down the valley of the Hudson, wherever the British interposed, and they were present when the first American flag was unfurled at Fort Schuyler.

After the Revolution the Mahikan people gradually withdrew from the Hudson valley, and uniting with their kinsmen at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, constituted the Stockbridge tribe. The Stockbridge finally united with the Oneida and received a grant of land in Madison county where just a century ago they flourished as an industrious, Christian community. It was not long, however, before nearly all the Oneida land was sold to settlers and the Stockbridge, who in their own tongue still called themselves "Muh-he-ka-ne-ok," removed with the Oneida to Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin today live the descendents of the "last of the Mahikans," and their blood mingles with that of the most progressive of all the Iroquois. They still remember their homes along the Hudson about Albany, and now and again these descendents come back to the Capital District to visit the localities once familiar to their ancestors.

We must remember them gratefully for their loyalty to the American cause at a time when they had many reasons to seek revenge. We must remember the words of Chief Wa-haun-wan-wau-meet to the Provincial congress of Massachusetts in April 1774. "Brothers," said the loyal chief, "When you have any trouble, come and tell it to us and we will help you."

The colonists soon called upon them, and, dressed as Continentals, they hurried to Lexington where they took the field, and a few days later participated in the battle of Bunker Hill, under the leadership of Captain Hendrick. After that memorable test of patriot determination, the Captain took his forces to German Flats for a conference, and again to Albany where he renewed his pledge of allegiance in language, eloquent for its sincerity. "Depend upon it," said the noble red man, "depend upon it, we are true to you, and mean to join you. Wherever you go we will be at your sides. Our bones shall die with yours. We are determined never to be at peace with the red coats while they are at variance with you. * * * If we are conquered our lands go with yours, but if you are victorious, we hope you will help us recover our just rights."

The Thirteen States won the contest and the victory made a new nation. The loyal Indians of the Capital District lost their lands, their just rights were trampled upon, and today in all this region there is not a monument, a marker or scarcely even a lingering memory expressing



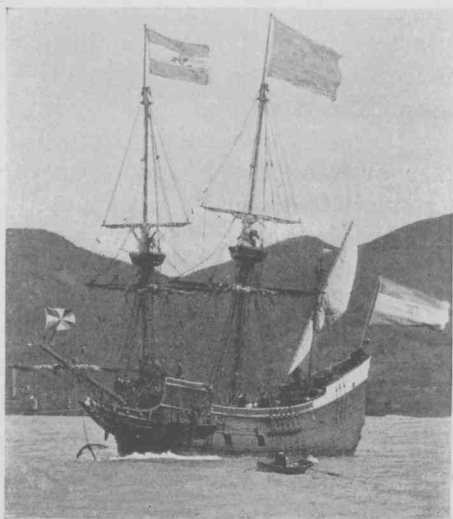
MAHIKAN BASKETS

*These baskets were made by the Mahikan Indians of Indian Fields more than 150 years ago.
From State Museum collections.*

one iota of gratitude to the patriot Mahikan people who in their devotion lost their lives and their lands that a new nation might be born. Among the patriots of this region we never hear of Nimham, Hendrick or Aupaumut, yet Washington, Schuyler and Lafayette knew them well and the Father of his Country left a record of their loyalty.



Thus have the first Albanians passed away, and in a far distant state their descendents still remember with a heart hunger the homeland that their fathers loved.



THE CITY OF ALBANY

FROM ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT BY THE DUTCH UNTIL 1686

By *A. J. F. Van Laer*

"For seventy years together," wrote Sir Walter Raleigh in 1603, "we had a great trade to Russia, and even about fourteen years ago we sent store of goodly ships thither; but three years past we sent out four thither, and last year but two or three ships;—whereas, the Hollanders are now increased to about thirty or forty ships, each as large as two of ours, chiefly laden with English cloth, herrings taken in our seas, English lead, and pewter made of our tin, beside other commodities." This capture by the Dutch of the trade with Russia gave them a virtual monopoly of the fur trade, which formerly had been in the hands of the English Muscovy Company. It is not surprising, therefore, that a few years later, when Henry Hudson's voyage of exploration of the Hudson river had opened up new sources of supply of valuable peltries, Dutch merchants were quick to extend the fur trade to the newly discovered territory.

As early as 1611, Hendrick Christiaensen visited the vicinity of Manhattan Island. During the next three years he, Adriaen Block, Cornelis Jacobsen May and others made further explorations, and in 1614, certain merchants of Amsterdam and Hoorn who had been interested in these explorations formed themselves into an association called the United New Netherland Company, which obtained from the States General for the period of three years the exclusive right to trade to the region between the 40th and 45th degrees of latitude, then for the first designated as New Netherland.

The agents of this company appreciated from the first the importance of establishing a trading post near the head of navigation of the Hudson river, which controlled the two main channels of communication with the interior of the continent, one leading west and the other leading north. They therefore erected in 1614, on Castle Island, now called Van Rensselaer or Westerlo Island, near the southern limit of the city of Albany, a small fort, which they named Fort Nassau. This fort was built in the form of a redoubt and was surrounded with a moat eighteen feet wide. It was mounted with two pieces of cannon and eleven



WEST INDIA COMPANY BUILDING AT AMSTERDAM

Erected in 1623

pedereros and had a garrison of ten or twelve men, commanded at first by Hendrick Christiaensen and in his absence by Jacob Eelkens, who afterwards entered the employment of some London merchants and was expelled from New Netherland.

Fort Nassau was constantly occupied for three years but, being injured by freshets, was abandoned in 1617, and thereafter went into decay. Private traders, however, continued to trade in its vicinity until the end of 1623, when the yacht "Mackerel" arrived in New Netherland and took possession of the province in the name of the newly organized Dutch West India Company.

In the spring of 1624, this company made preparations for the permanent settlement of New Netherland. To that end it equipped a ship of 260 tons, called the "New Netherland," under the command of Cornelis



MAP OF NEW NETHERLAND

Being part of the map entitled "Nova Anglia, Novum Belgium et Virginia," in the 1630 edition of Johannes de Laet's *Nieuwe Wereldt*, or description of the new world.

Jacobsen May, which sailed from Holland on March 30th and arrived in New Netherland in the beginning or middle of May. According to Wassenaer, this vessel had on board "about thirty families, mostly

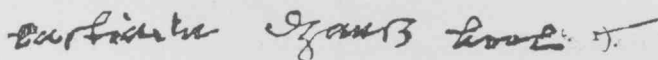
Walloons," that is, French-speaking Protestants from the provinces of Hainault and Artois, on the borders of Belgium and France.

Some of these families went up the Connecticut river and built a small fort, called Fort Good Hope, where Hartford now stands. Others were sent to the Delaware river and founded Fort Nassau, near the site of the present town of Gloucester, in New Jersey. Eight men were left at Manhattan to take possession of the island, and the rest of the passengers, consisting of eighteen families, came up the Hudson river as far as Albany, where they built a fort named Fort Orange, on the site of the present steamboat square.

Cornelis May apparently returned to Holland in the fall of 1624, and left the colony in charge of Adriaen Jorissen Thienpont, who formerly had traded on the river as agent for M. Pieter Courten, a prominent merchant of Middelburg, who afterwards became a director of the Zeeland Chamber of the West India Company.

No list of the colonists who came to Fort Orange has been preserved, but it is known that among them were George Rapalje and his wife Catelina Trico a native of Paris whose daughter Sarah Rapalje, born on June 9, 1625, was the first white woman born in New Netherland. Some sixty years later, Catelina Trico declared that the settlers, as soon as they had built themselves some huts of bark, traded with the Indians, who "made Covenants of friendship wth ye s^d Arien Jorise there Commander Bringing him great Presents of Bever or oy^r Peltry & desyred that they might come and have a Constant free Trade with them w^{ch} was concluded upon & ye s^d nations came dayly with great mutidus of Bever & traded them wth ye Christians." Thus, at an early date, was laid the foundation of that unbroken alliance between the Indians and the white men on the Hudson river, which afterwards became the controlling factor in the struggle between the French and the English for the mastery of the continent. The maintenance of this alliance was at all times closely bound up with the fur trade, of which Albany was the center. It is for this reason that Albany during the colonial period occupied a prominent position as a frontier town and that in 1754 it was chosen as the meeting place of the conference known as the Albany Congress, whose primary purpose was not so much that of union, as that of common defence of the colonies and the united control and regulation of the fur trade.

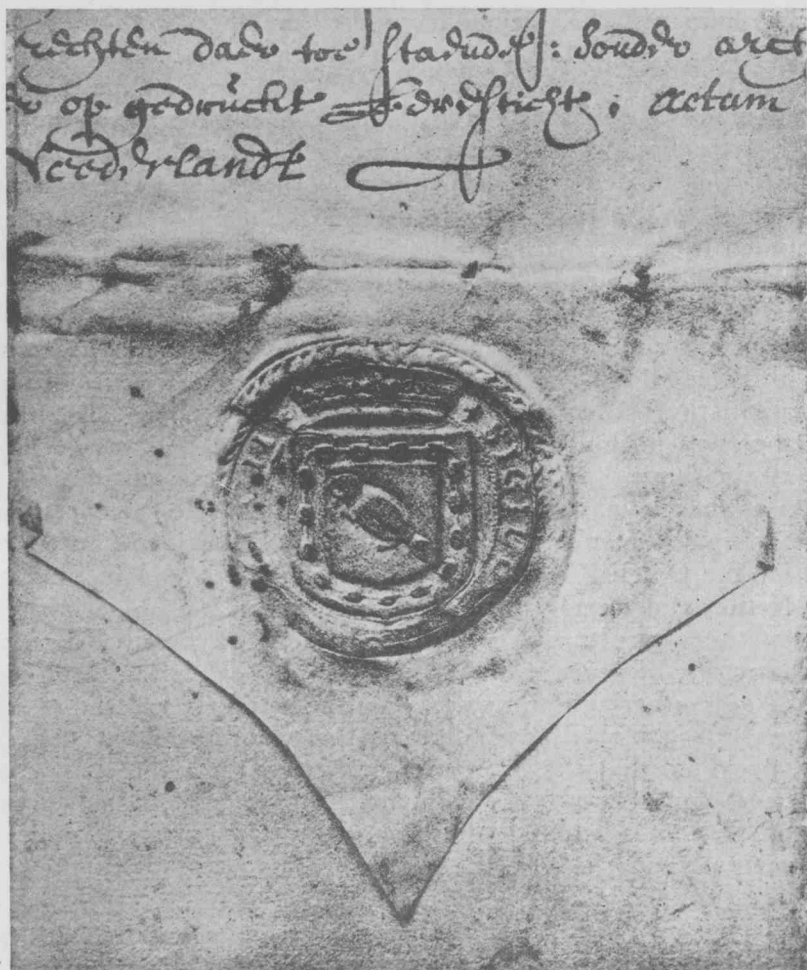
One of the early officials at Albany who for many years was responsible for the maintenance of this alliance was Bastiaen Jansen Krol, a



Signature of Bastiaen Jansen Krol

man of humble birth and little education, who was sent out by the West India Company as comforter of the sick, or lay reader, in 1624. Krol was in all probability stationed at Fort Orange and there conducted the

first religious services that were held in the State of New York. Krol returned to Holland in the fall of 1624, but again came to New Netherland in the early part of 1625. The following year he was appointed commander of Fort Orange. He held this post until 1629 and again from 1630 until the spring of 1632, when, upon the departure of Peter Minuit, he was made director general of New Netherland. He occupied this position until the arrival of Van Twiller in April 1633, and



SEAL OF NEW NETHERLAND

then at the latter's request once more accepted the post of commander of Fort Orange. Krol, therefore, stands out as easily the most prominent person connected with the early history of Albany, to whose tact and good judgment in dealing with the Indians the State owes a debt which has not been sufficiently recognized.

During the year 1625, the settlement at Fort Orange was strengthened by some additional colonists. Adriaen Jorissen Thienpont returned to Holland and was succeeded by Daniel van Krieckenbeeck. The following year war broke out between the Mahicans or River Indians, who occupied both banks of the Hudson river in the vicinity of Fort Orange, and their powerful neighbors, the Mohawks, who were located to the west and north of Schenectady. The Mahicans asked help of the Dutch commander of the fort, who rashly consented and accompanied them with six of his men. A league from the fort they were met by the Mohawks, who fell so boldly upon them with a discharge of arrows that they were forced to flee, van Krieckenbeeck and three of his men being killed. Among those slain was Tymen Bouwensz, whom "they devoured, after having well roasted him. The rest they burnt. The commander was buried with two others by his side. Three escaped; two Portuguese and a Hollander from Hoorn. One of the Portuguese was wounded by an arrow in the back whilst swimming. The Indians carried a leg and an arm home to be divided among their families, as a sign that they had conquered their enemies."

Shortly after this event, Manhattan Island was purchased from the Indians by Peter Minuit and chosen as the seat of government. In order to strengthen the settlement on this island and perhaps also because Fort Orange was no longer a safe place of residence, it was decided to remove all the families to Manhattan. From that time, until 1630, Fort Orange was merely a trading post, occupied by a few traders and a garrison of sixteen men, under the command of Bastiaen Jansen Krol.

Thus far the Dutch West India Company had confined its operations in New Netherland largely to the fur trade and made no serious effort to develop the agricultural possibilities of the province. There were several directors, however, who favored the plan of agricultural colonization of New Netherland and who, when the company refused to follow their suggestions, offered to undertake this colonization at their own expense, provided that the company would grant them certain concessions. These concessions were embodied in a document known as the charter of Freedoms and Exemptions, which after prolonged negotiations was finally adopted by the company and ratified by the States General on June 7, 1629.

This charter provided in substance that members of the company who within four years should plant in New Netherland a colony of fifty adults, should be acknowledged as patroons and have the right to administer civil and criminal justice within the limits of their respective colonies, to appoint and discharge local officers of government, and to enjoy such privileges of milling, hunting, fowling and fishing, as at that time were usually attached to the manors of the Netherlands.

In accordance with the terms of this charter, a number of patroonships were established in New Netherland. Among these was one

founded in 1630 by Kiliaen van Rensselaer and his associates in the vicinity of Fort Orange, which was named Rensselaerswyck. This patroonship covered a large tract of land on both sides of the Hudson



DUTCH SOLDIER, 1630

river, extending from Beeren Island, just below Coeymans, to the mouth of the Mohawk, and back into the country, on each side of the river, a distance of twenty-four miles.

As soon as the larger part of this tract had been purchased from the Indians a few settlers were sent to the colony. A few more followed in 1631 and in 1632 instructions were given for the erection of a court. Just then, however, difficulties arose between the patroon and the directors of the West India Company, who feared that the establishment of the patroonships would interfere with the company's monopoly of the fur trade and who therefore laid various obstacles in the way of the transportation of cattle and wherever possible sought to buy up the patroonships that had already been started.

The patroonship of Rensselaerswyck, however, survived these difficulties and soon was established on a permanent basis. In 1634, a court of schout and schepens was erected, with the patroon's *commies* or trading agent as its presiding officer. In 1636, the patroon jointly with Gerard de Forest, of Leyden, equipped the ship "Rensselaerswyck," which brought over a large number of colonists, among them Albert Andriessen Bradt and his wife Annetje Barents, whose son Storm van der Zee, according to the log of the ship, which has been preserved, was born at sea, on November 2d, during a violent storm. In 1638, Arent van Curler, a young man of eighteen, who was a cousin of the patroon, came out as assistant to Planck, whom he soon after succeeded as trading agent and temporarily, until better arrangements could be made, also as schout, or prosecuting officer and sheriff. In the latter capacity van Curler was succeeded in 1641, by Adriaen van der Donck, a young man who had studied law in the University of Leyden, and who afterwards became one of the leaders in the popular movement against Stuyvesant, which resulted in 1653 in the establishment of New Amsterdam as a separate municipality.

In 1642, provision was made for the establishment of a church in the colony, the Rev. Johannes Megapolensis being engaged for the term of six years, at an annual salary of 1000 guilders for the first three years and of 1200 guilders a year for the remainder of the term. Domine Megapolensis sailed for the colony with his wife and four children on the ship "Houttuyn," together with Abraham Staets, surgeon, Evert Pels, brewer, Hans Vos, court messenger, and a number of other free-men, farmers and farm servants. On his arrival a contract was made for the erection of a dwelling for the minister and his family, but the builder failing to fulfil his contract, a house belonging to Maryn Adriaensen, constructed entirely of oak, was purchased for his use. This house stood in the Greenen Bosch, or pine grove, afterwards corrupted to Greenbush, on the east side of the river, near, or perhaps on the very site of, Fort Crailo. The location of the minister's house on the east side of the river was in accordance with the patroon's instructions, for as early as August 4, 1639, the latter wrote to Arent van Curler that he was sending over a wooden model of a church and that it was his "definite intention that this church be put opposite Castle Island, north

REDRES

Van de
Abuyfen ende Faulten in de
Colonie van Rensselaers-wijck.



A M S T E R D A M.

**Gedruckt by Thunis Iacobsz, Woonende in de Wolbe-
straet/in de Historie van Josephus/ Anno 1643.**

TITLE PAGE OF PAMPHLET RELATING TO RENSSELAERSWYCK

of the small grove and south of the farm of Gerrit de Reux, deceased, not far from the small grove on a small hill, near or on the bank of the river. Cornelis Theunissen would perhaps rather have it on the west side of the river, but I am firmly resolved to have it on the east side, at the aforesaid spot. Near this church ought to be built also a dwelling for the minister and one for the sexton and this at the least expense."

The patroon's reason for insisting that the church neighborhood, including the houses of the minister and the sexton, the shops of the carpenters and blacksmith and other mechanics of the colony, should be built on the east side of the river, rather than on the west side, under the protection of Fort Orange, must probably be sought in the fear of encroachment by the English from the east, to which the patroon alludes in a letter of 1641.

Whatever the reason may have been, it is interesting to note that for a short time the main settlement of the colony seems to have been on the east side of the river and that as late as 1648 but few houses stood near the fort. Describing conditions as he found them in 1643, Father Jogues wrote in 1646:

"This colony is composed of about a hundred persons, who reside in some twenty-five or thirty houses built along the river, as each found most convenient. In the principal house lives the patroon's agent; the minister has his apart, in which service is performed. There is also a sort of bailiff here, whom they call the seneschall, who administers justice. All their houses are merly of boards and thatched, with no mason work except the chimneys."

In the year 1644, Kiliaen van Rensselaer died and with this event the zealous care with which from his home in Amsterdam he had watched over the affairs of the colony came to an end. The patroon's estate and title now descended to his eldest son, Johannes, who, being a minor, was placed under the guardianship of his uncle Johan van Wely and his cousin Wouter van Twiller. Upon these guardians, therefore, devolved the duty of looking after the administration of the colony. Arent van Curler, who in 1643 had married Anthonia van Slachboom, the widow of Jonas Bronck, sailed for Holland in October 1644, and left the colony in charge of Adriaen van der Donck and Anthony de Hooges, the secretary. A little later, Van der Donck's term of office expired and after a violent quarrel with de Hooges he left the colony. His place was temporarily taken by Nicolaes Coorn, the commander of Rensselaerssteyn, a small fort on Beeren Island, at the southern entrance to the colony, which had been erected in 1643 to prevent unlicensed fur traders from coming into the colony.

On November 10, 1646, the guardians of the young patroon appointed Brant Aertsen van Slichtenhorst, whose wife, Aeltje van Wenckum, was a distant relative of Kiliaen van Rensselaer, director of the colony. Van Slichtenhorst was then a man of 59 years, who had held various administrative offices in the Netherlands and therefore was well qualified for the duties which awaited him. He received his instructions on September 4, 1647, and on the 26th of the same month sailed for the colony, where, after various delays in Virginia and at Manhattan, he arrived on March 22, 1648, accompanied by his son

Gerrit van Slichtenhorst, his daughter Margaret, who afterwards married Philip Pietersen Schuyler, and his nephew Gerrit van Wenckum. With him also returned Arent van Curler, who again became the trading agent of the colony.



A cursive signature of Peter Stuyvesant, written in dark ink. The signature is highly stylized, with large, flowing letters and a prominent 'P' at the beginning.

PORTRAIT AND SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL PETER STUYVESANT

Van Slichtenhorst immediately took steps to improve the condition of the colony, which since the death of Kiliaen van Rensselaer had been sadly neglected. Having organized his court, one of the first things he

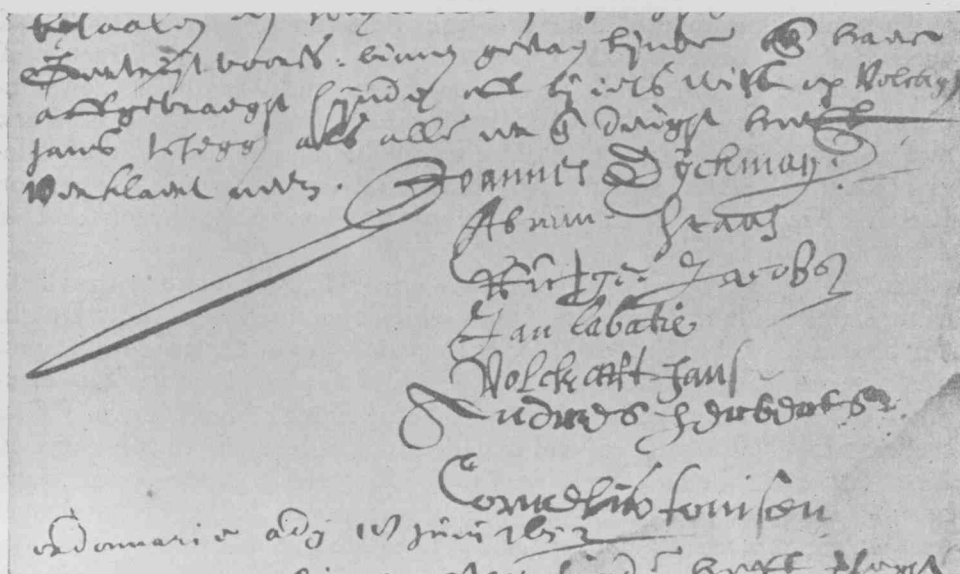
did, on April 30, 1648, was to grant Evert Noldingh permission to open a school. He also laid out a number of lots in the vicinity of the fort and gave permission for the construction of houses to take the place of those that during the preceding years had been destroyed or damaged by freshets. The erection of these houses soon attracted the attention of Peter Stuyvesant and involved Van Slichtenhorst in a lengthy controversy with the director general of New Netherland in regard to the jurisdiction over the land in the immediate neighborhood of the fort. Stuyvesant maintained that the newly erected houses endangered the security of the fort and ordered the destruction of all buildings within range of cannon shot, reckoned at 500 geometrical paces of 6 feet to the pace. The controversy in regard to these buildings lasted until April 1652, when Stuyvesant personally repaired to Fort Orange to settle the matter. Upon his arrival, he at once sent Sergeant Litschoe with a party of soldiers to the patroon's house to call upon Van Slichtenhorst to lower the patroon's flag. This Van Slichtenhorst peremptorily refused to do. Fourteen soldiers, armed with loaded muskets, thereupon entered the enclosure and, after having fired a volley in the presence of the assembled multitude, hauled down the patroon's colors.

Stuyvesant followed up this highhanded proceeding by issuing on April 10, 1652, a proclamation, erecting in Fort Orange a court of justice for the fort and the surrounding village, apart from and independent of the colony of Rensselaerswyck. He also fixed the limits of the village, which thenceforth became known as Beverwyck. Van Slichtenhorst was arrested and sent to Manhattan, where he was detained until August 1653. He was succeeded as director of the colony by Johan Baptist van Rensselaer, the second son of the Kiliaen van Rensselaer, deceased, who had arrived in the colony in 1651, and who was the first Van Rensselaer to come to New Netherland.

The settlement near the fort at that time consisted of about one hundred houses. To make room for the houses that had been demolished Stuyvesant granted a number of lots along the south side of State street, then called Joncker straet, afterwards corrupted to Yonkers street. With the laying out of this street, the village of Beverwyck began to assume the appearance which it retained throughout the greater part of the colonial period.

The only church in the village at that time was the former patroon's trading house, which in or shortly before 1648 had been remodeled as a church by building therein a pulpit with sounding board and pews for the magistrates and the deacons. Curiously enough, at the very time that the village was taken out of the jurisdiction of the colony, the guardians of the young patroon made arrangements for the sending over of another minister, to take the place of Domine Megapolensis, who had left the colony in 1649. This minister was the Rev. Gideon Schaets. He arrived in the colony on July 24, 1652. He was engaged for the

period of three years, so that his term expired in 1655. The congregation then decided to build another church. This church was erected in 1656, at the foot of State street, near the site of the present post office. It had the form of a blockhouse and was provided with a pulpit sent from Holland, which is still in use in the First Dutch Reformed Church on North Pearl street. This church served the congregation until 1715, when it was replaced by a larger structure, of which a picture has been preserved.



FIRST MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF FORT ORANGE AND BEVERWYCK

With the establishment of the independent village of Beverwyck, the beaver trade, which formerly had been exclusively under the control of the Dutch West India Company and the patroon of the colony of Rensselaerswyck, was thrown open to the citizens and rapidly increased. The importance of this trade, which throughout the colonial period was the principal business of the settlement, is shown by the fact that in 1657, between June 20th and September 27th, no less than 40,940 beaver and otter skins were shipped from Beverwyck.

As already shown, the prosecution of this trade depended upon the good relations with the Indians. These were never seriously disturbed, although more than once the burghers of the village lived in fear of attack by the savages, more particularly, in 1659, when war broke out between the Dutch and the Esopus Indians. To guard against such attack, the magistrates, on November 4, 1659, determined to surround the village with a stockade. A similar alarm was felt in 1663, at the outbreak of the second Esopus war. It was at that time that the author-

ities of the colony of Rensselaerswyck decided to build a small fort in Greenbush and demanded of the commander of Fort Orange the return of three pieces of cannon, which belonged to the patroon. Fortunately no attack followed, and the village was allowed to continue its peaceful existence under Dutch rule until September 24, 1664, when Fort Orange was surrendered to the English and Beverwyck was named Albany, after the Scotch title of the Duke of York. An English garrison occupied the little fort, which was named "Fort Albany," and placed in charge of Captain John Manning.

The following month, Jeremias van Rensselaer, who in 1658 had succeeded his brother Johan Baptist van Rensselaer as director of the colony of Rensselaerswyck, was confirmed in his authority, on condition that a new patent should be obtained from the Duke of York and that the inhabitants of the colony should take the oath of allegiance to the English government. The next year, by order of Governor Richard Nicolls, the court of the colony was consolidated with that of Albany.

The village of Beverwyck was now under English control but little change was made in the government, which remained essentially Dutch. On September 26, 1673, Albany again came under Dutch control and was named Willemstadt, the fort, which was placed under the command of Lieutenant Andries Draeyer, being named Fort Nassau. This second period of Dutch control lasted but a little more than one year, New Netherland being surrendered to the English by the treaty of peace between Holland and England which was concluded at Westminster on February 19, 1674. Governor Edmund Andros assumed the government of New York on November 10, 1674, and a few days later sent Ensign Knapton with Sergeant Sharpe and eighteen soldiers up the river to take over the fort. The surrender was accomplished on November 14th, and Willemstadt once more became Albany.

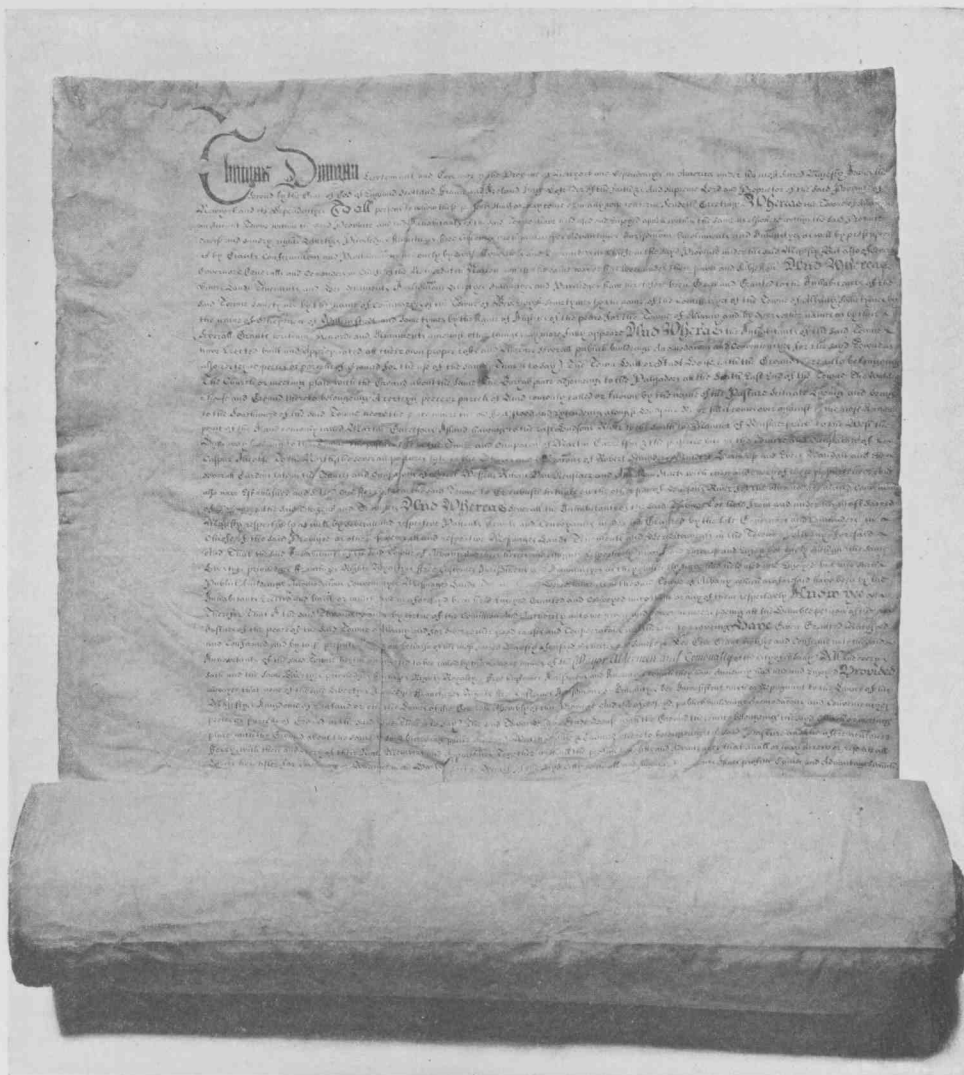
Meanwhile, the members of the van Rensselaer family residing in Holland had made efforts to obtain from the Duke of York a patent for the colony which would put them again in possession of the former village of Beverwyck, which had been unjustly taken from them by Peter Stuyvesant. To assist them in this matter, the directors of the West India Company, whose charter was about to expire and who were no longer interested in New Netherland, disavowed Stuyvesant's action and on April 2, 1674, signed a declaration "That the above named Patroon Rensselaer and co-partners have been already, from the year XVI^C and thirty, and are true owners of the abovenamed hamlet named Beverswyck or Willemstadt, and that the possession by their late Director could not take away nor diminish said ownership; declaring, therefore, that the abovenamed Company has no right, action nor pretention thereto, leaving the right of ownership in the abovenamed Patroon and associates."

The Duke of York requested Governor Andros to investigate the



JAMES, DUKE OF YORK AND ALBANY
*After whom the city was named when it passed into English control,
September 24, 1664.*

title of the Van Rensselaers and, in 1678, after Andros's report had been favorably passed upon by the Duke's lawyers, directed him to issue a patent for the colony, including the village of Beverwyck. For some reason no action was taken by Andros. He was succeeded in 1683 by Governor Thomas Dongan, to whom renewed application was made for



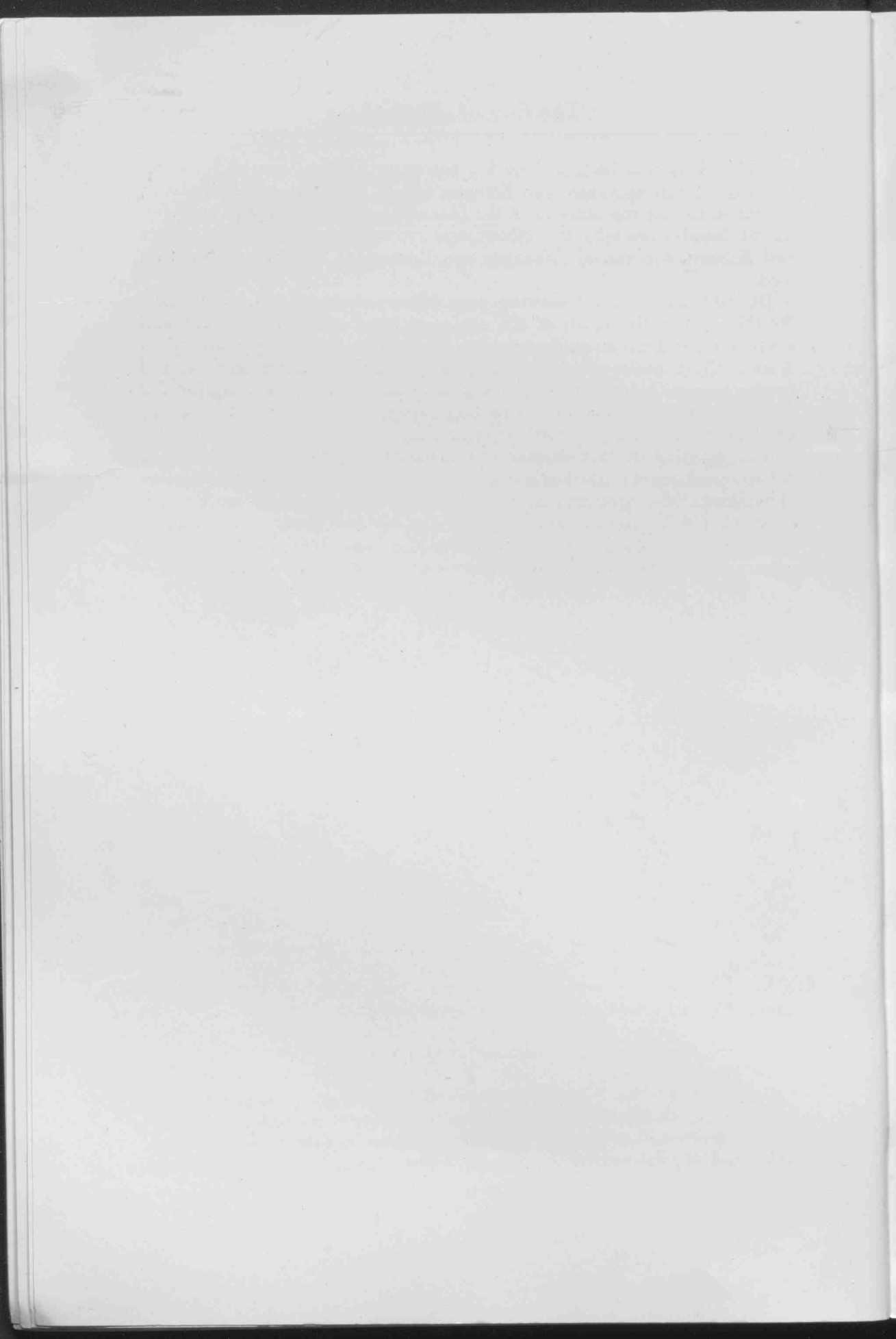
DONGAN CHARTER 1686

a patent. Governor Dongan declined to grant it on the ground that "he did not think it convenient that the second town in the government should be in the hands of private men." The Van Rensselaers thereupon decided to relinquish their claims to the village and on November

4, 1685, Governor Dongan issued a patent to Kiliaen, son of Johannes van Rensselaer, deceased, and Kiliaen, son of Jeremias van Rensselaer, deceased, the representatives of the Holland and the American branches of the family, whereby the colony was erected into an English manor and Kiliaen, the son of Johannes van Rensselaer, was created its first lord.

On July 22d of the following year Albany received its city charter. By this charter the limits of the city were fixed at one mile north and south on the Hudson and sixteen miles in a northwesterly direction. Within these limits all vacant and unappropriated lands were vested in the mayor, aldermen and commonalty of the city, thus ending for all time the disputes as to jurisdiction between the city and the colony of Rensselaerswyck.

The granting of this charter was a happy event for the citizens of Albany and marks the beginning of a new era in the city's history. Henceforth, the government was definitely placed upon an English basis, all official records were kept in English and justice was administered according to English law. With the year 1686, therefore, the existence of Albany as a Dutch village came formally to a close.



FROM THE CHARTER TO THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

By Peter Nelson, State Library, Albany, N. Y.

The Dutch period of the history of Albany might be considered as ending with the English conquest in 1664, only forty years after the landing of the settlers from the *New Netherland*. But the conditions of the surrender were such that Dutchmen continued to rule, Dutch laws and customs prevailed almost universally, and the Dutch language was used on the street and in the home, the church and the court room. English sovereignty had come with the expedition of Col. Richard Nicolls but caused little apparent change for some time. The granting of the charter in 1686 indicated that changes had taken place and that the city, while not English, was at least in the process of becoming so and was ready to take its position as an English political organization; the English language, law and court procedure were from this time to prevail more and more.



FIRST CITY SEAL

The charter was granted July 22, 1686, and was therefore less than three months later than the New York City charter. The Duke of York had at this time succeeded his brother as King of England; New York had thereby become a royal province; the charter of the city of Albany was therefore granted by Col. Thomas Dongan in the name of King James II. In this lengthy document are many interesting provisions. It confirmed all rights granted to the commissaries of Beverwyck, the commissaries of Albany, the schepenen of Willemstadt and the justices of the peace of the town of Albany. In these

present days of demands for home rule and increased local powers for cities, it is well to note that this charter granted "all the waste, vacant and unappropriated lands lying and being in the City and the precincts and liberties thereof" and went even further and granted to the city authorities the power to purchase and hold land as a corporation both at Schaghticoke on the Hudson River and at Tionnondoroge (Fort Hunter) on the Mohawk River. Numerous duties devolved upon the mayor beyond those now associated with the office; he was coroner and clerk of the market; with the recorder and alderman of the city, he also served as justice of the peace for the county, and sat in the courts of sessions and of oyer and terminer.

The charter went into effect immediately for we find that on the 26th of July Peter Schuyler was sworn in to his manifold offices and Robert Livingston became clerk of the city and of the various courts.

The population of the city at this date is not given anywhere but may be estimated when we know that in 1687 the entire county contained only 1,986 white inhabitants and 157 negroes; this small population included the manor of Rensselaerswyck, the town of Schenectady and



GOVERNOR THOMAS DONGAN

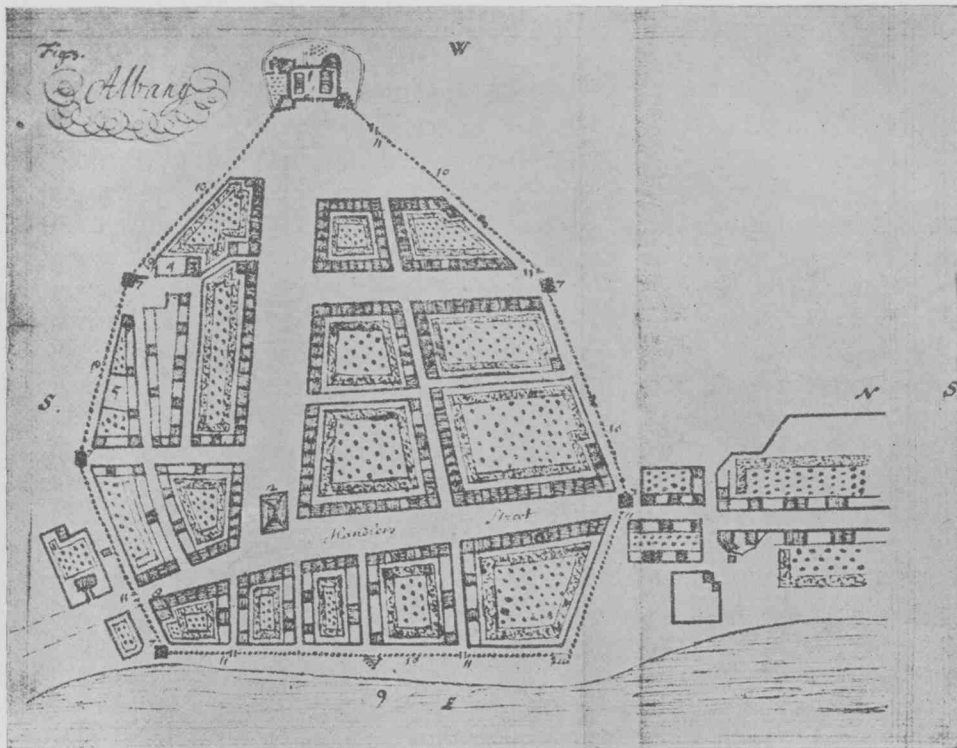
settlers at outlying points like Half Moon and Niskayuna. Included in this enumeration were eight merchants. About six years earlier the village is described as consisting of some 80 or 90 houses with a fort on a high hill back of the dwellings. A few years later the Rev. John Miller visited this region and left a very brief description and sketches of what he saw. Albany had then about 200 houses, one-fourth as many as were credited to New York.



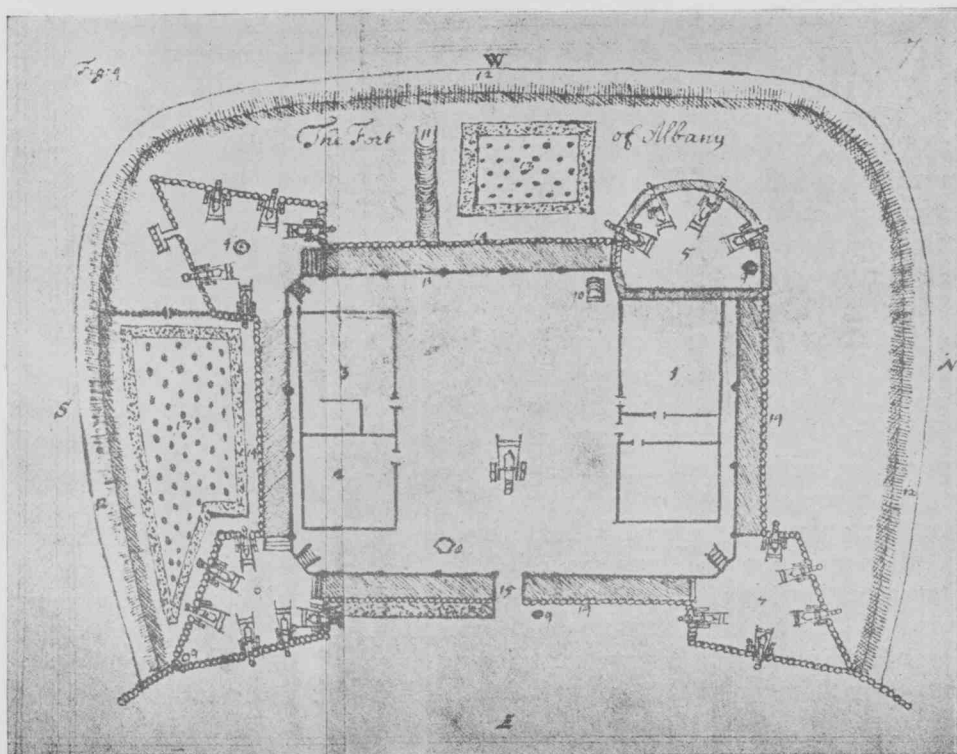
PIETER SCHUYLER
First Mayor

The principal streets in 1695 were then Broadway, from Hudson to Steuben; State, from Broadway to Chapel; North Pearl, from State to Steuben; and Chapel, from State to the fortifications. The palisades ran from the river to the fort at the head of State street; the farthest point north was at Broadway and Steuben streets, and the farthest south at Hudson avenue and Green street; from these points the lines approached each other both toward the river and toward the fort. The fort itself, according to Miller, was "quadrangular strongly stockaded & ditched round having in it 21 pieces of Ordinance mounted." The stockades were further strengthened by blockhouses on the north, east and south. Though the population of Albany was not large, these boundaries seem narrow and they made necessary small building lots of width sufficient only for the houses. But doubtless it would be more correct to say that the houses were built close together because that was the way the Dutch were in the habit of building their villages and the stockades could be drawn correspondingly close as they did not need to enclose so large an area as if built according to different ideas of city planning. Somewhat later more territory was required and a line of palisades was constructed which extended the protected area to Hamilton street on the south and to about Orange street on the north. The only public buildings of sufficient importance to be indicated on this early map were the two Dutch churches, Calvinist and Lutheran, and the Stadt-huys, or City Hall.

We have anticipated the course of events somewhat in order to use the Miller description for a picture of the little community which had come of age and been granted the rights of a full-fledged city. Albany was a frontier settlement and continued to be so for many a year. Though never entered by the foe, whether Indian or French or British, she was the constant object of threat, and attack after attack was planned and directed at her. In February of 1688, writing from Albany, the Governor reported that he had spent the winter there with 400 foot and 50 horse and 800 Indians. The extraordinary expenses occasioned by this force amounted to over £2,000, of which the city and county of Albany were assessed £240; but the significance of such conditions for farming and for the Indian trade went far beyond the taxes and might well have ruined the little community. The years 1689 and 1690 brought with them the usurpation of the government of the city and colony of New York by Capt. Leisler which caused great trouble at Albany and friction between the city authorities and the agent of Leisler. The distraction of the inhabitants at Schenectady had dire consequences for the vigilance of the guard was neglected and so French and Indians made easy conquest of the slumbering town. That Albany escaped may have been due only to the road chosen by the attacking force which brought them first to the town on the Mohawk. Stragglers who had escaped the massacre kept coming into the city of Albany all the following day with rumors of the coming attack by the enemy upon Albany



MILLER PLAN OF CITY 1695



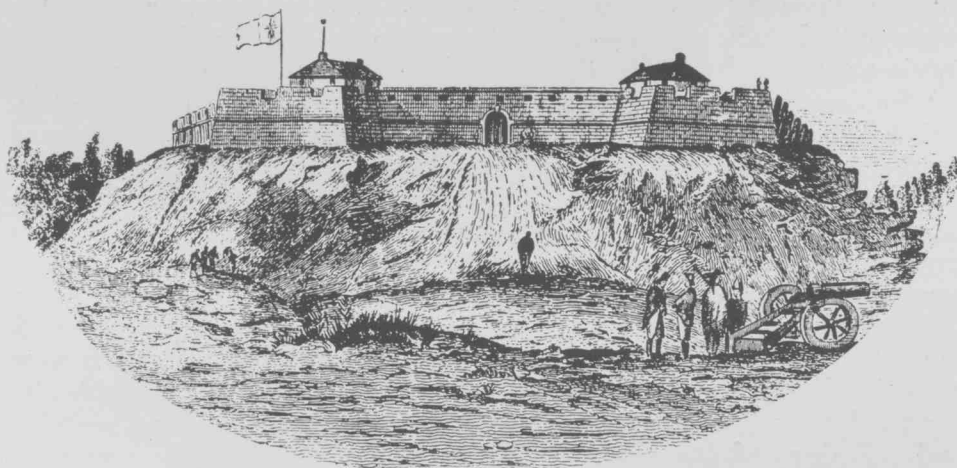
MILLER PLAN OF FORT 1695

and with stories of a total force of 1,400, with detachments destined for attacks on Albany and Esopus (Kingston).

We know, of course, that Albany was not attacked, but the terror of that time is hard to imagine and the disorganization of the government made it impossible to adopt proper measures to defend the colony. The following year Governor Sloughter arrived and took over the government from Leisler, who was imprisoned for his high handed acts; soon after the governor attended conferences with the Indians at Albany and Schenectady and a letter written to the governors of neighboring provinces describes both the conditions which he had found and the importance which he attached to the preservation of this frontier post: "I found that place in great disorder, our plantations and Schenectady almost ruined and destroyed by the enemys dureing the time of the late confusions here. I have guarrisoned Schenectady and the Halfe Moon with some of the hundred fusileers raised by our Assembly for the defence of the frontier at Albany; the remainder with one of the King's companys are posted at Albany. * * * I need not relate unto you of how great import the preservacon of this place (Albany) is, being the only bulwark and safeguard of all Their Majestys plantacons on the main of America, and if, for want of strength, the French should assault and gain Albany, how farr your Government and all the English Colonys on both sides of us would be endangered, you can easily judge. For we have nothing but that place that keeps our Indians steady to us, and the loss of that must be the loss of all the King's intrest on this Continent."

For some years the danger continued but it never again came so close; in 1693 another council was held with the Indians and their friendship secured; at this time too new palisades were set around the city "against the old Stockadoes" and every effort was made to keep up a strong defense. The peace with France in 1698 brought a temporary truce only, but it was a grateful rest to the people who for nine years had been at excessive charge and expense in quartering officers and soldiers and had been obliged, as they said in their petition to the governor, "to fortify the towne twice with Palesadoes, and build 5 block houses, all at their own charge, which hath so much impoverished the Inhabitants that most have deserted." Some four years later Lord Cornbury, then governor, came to Albany and from his report we find that the military defences, as well as the condition of the regular troops and of the militia, had again become very bad. He found the plans of Col. Romer for a stone fort very defective in that they required too great an amount of stone and the building of very deep foundations; the Romer plans are preserved in the Crown Collection and are of interest as forming the basis of the modified fort which was begun by Cornbury, and which he hoped to carry that year to such a height that it would serve as a breastwork "till next spring." Next spring brought no money to carry on the construction work; so the cheaper plan of new palisades for the old fort was adopted.

The power granted to the corporation of the city to purchase of the Indians the lands at Schaghticoke was exercised in 1707, some twenty years later. This land was shortly surveyed into farms and leased to settlers, for it was the original intention to retain the ownership of the land and so obtain a perpetual endowment or income to help in paying the expenses of the city government for all time. Among the lessees was Johannes Knickerbacker who leased thirty morgens of land and paid for it sixteen pounds and ten shillings, and in addition an annual rent of thirty-seven and one-half bushels of good merchantable winter wheat. Such a lease was typical but later on they were changed into full deeds without reservations of any sort.



FORT FREDERICK

In 1709 an expedition was organized for the invasion of Canada and advanced as far as Wood Creek, where some forts were built but the expedition was abandoned. Col. Peter Schuyler was so moved by his disappointment at the failure of this venture that he could not dismiss it from his mind and determined to sail to England and urge this plan personally upon the ministry; to strengthen his case he took with him several Indians and attracted the greatest of attention throughout the kingdom; mobs followed them whenever they appeared; the Indian chiefs were introduced by the lord chamberlain to the royal presence of Queen Anne. Whether the presence of the Indians helped his cause, certain it is that Schuyler secured the promises of help for another expedition. The naval portion of the force met with disaster in the

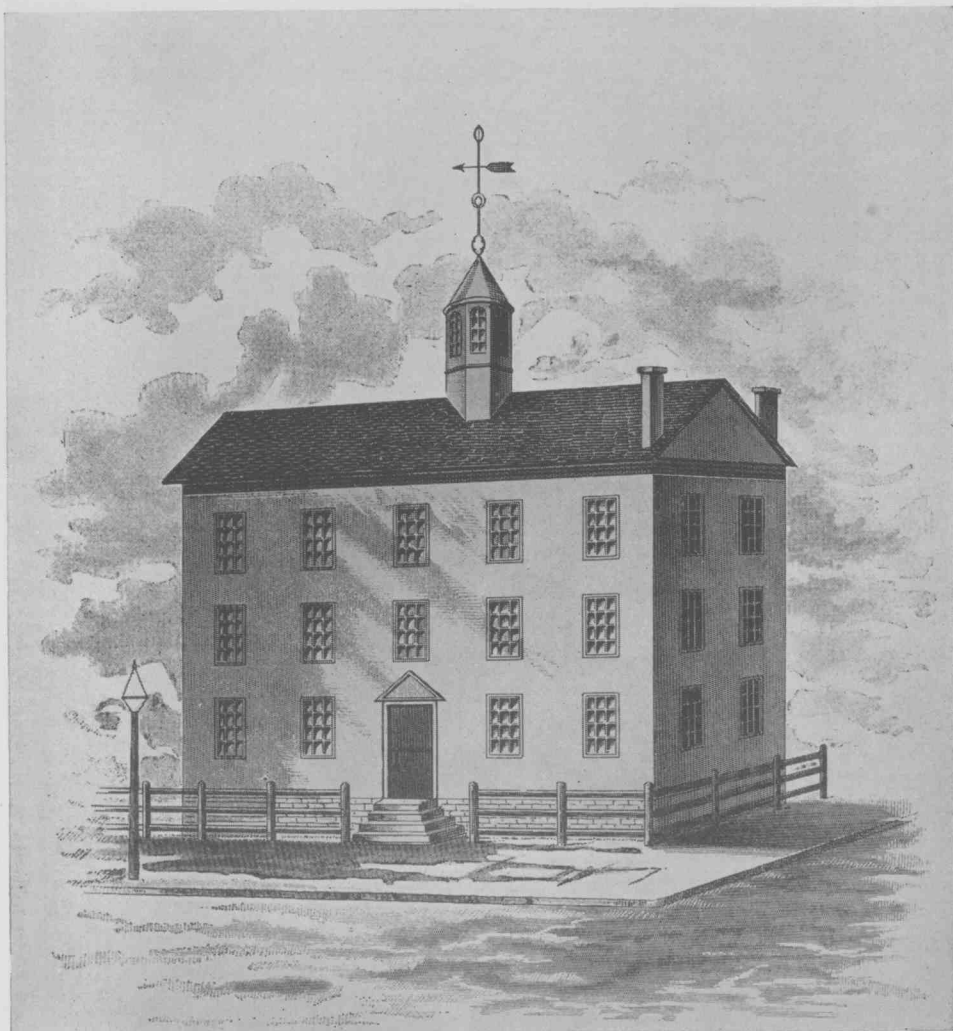
St. Lawrence River and the land expedition was therefore obliged to retreat from Fort George, to which point it had reached; so ended the dream of the conquest of Canada as had the others which preceded.

The history of the Church of England in Albany begins definitely, though chaplains had visited the city at earlier times, with the coming of the Rev. Thomas Barclay in 1708. Apparently the Lutheran organization was dormant for a period for Mr. Barclay reports in 1710 that there was no Dutch minister at Albany after the death of Mr. Lydius. Mr. Barclay preached in Dutch as well as English and in 1714 had brought his organization to the point where they were ready to erect a building; they accordingly petitioned the governor for permission to build a chapel in the vacant space just below the fort. The objections of the corporation that the property belonged to them under the charter availed nothing against the governor's grant and the church, a stone structure fifty-eight feet by forty-two feet, was finished in 1716. The old Dutch church, which dated from the days before the English conquest, had also become so much decayed that the pastor and officers were under the necessity of building a new one. This was done in 1715, the stone walls being run up without disturbing the old building in which services continued to be held; the church was therefore out of use only for the short interval while the old wooden structure was being removed. This building continued in use for almost a century when it was replaced by the present building on North Pearl street.

Public schools as we now think of them were unknown till very much later than the period with which we are now dealing but there had been even before this a certain amount of catechetical instruction usually carried on by the clergymen of the churches. In 1721, when the population of the city was probably close to 2,000, the common council took the action indicated in the following resolution: "Whereas it is very requisite & necessary that a fitt and able school master settle in this city for teaching and instructing of the youth in speling, reading, writeing and cyffering and Mr. Johannis Glandorf haveing offered his service to settle here and keep a school if reasonably encourage by the Corporation, it is therefore Resolved by this Comonalty and they do hereby oblidge themselves and their successors to give and procure unto the said Johan's Glandorf free house rent for the term of seaven years next ensueing for keeping a good and commendable school as becomes a diligent Schoolmaster." If this seems small encouragement, it should be remembered that this did not mean free tuition but that the parents or guardians were required to pay such fees for each child in the school.

The progress in educational matters had been very slight in the eighty-odd years since Evert Nolden was permitted to establish himself as a private schoolmaster in 1648 or that time a little later when Adriaen Jansen van Ilpendam came to teach in the schoolhouse built by voluntary subscriptions of the colonists and when the master was granted 50 guilders for a single year "in alleviation of his house rent."

During the next decade or two the city seems to have had a steady growth. The Indian trade continued to be the main business of the city and, as an incident to this, Indian conferences and Indian treaties were held; the far Indians, as those were called who lived beyond the Iroquois, began to come in greater numbers. From the earliest days the trade with the Indians had been under stringent regulations but there is



STADT HUYS, 1740

reason to suppose that the enforcement was very poor at times. In Governor Burnet's time, he proposed the building of a number of houses outside the palisades where the trading should be carried on openly and where the use of liquor to get them drunk so that their furs might be gotten cheaply could be prevented. These buildings were paid for by

the colony, not by the city. In 1731 the first step seems to have been taken by the common council for the organization of a fire department and it was also resolved "that an Enguin or Water Spuyt be sent for to England per the first opportunity in the Spring."

The permission contained in the charter to buy lands at Fort Hunter on the Mohawk of the Indians was not used till 1730. To preserve the city's title to this property it was then resolved that a committee should go to the Mohawk country and obtain a deed from the Indians. This they did but the Indians charged later that they had been deceived as to the property conveyed and Governor Cosby in 1733 arbitrarily tore up the Indian deed which the Albany committee had obtained and declared their title invalid.

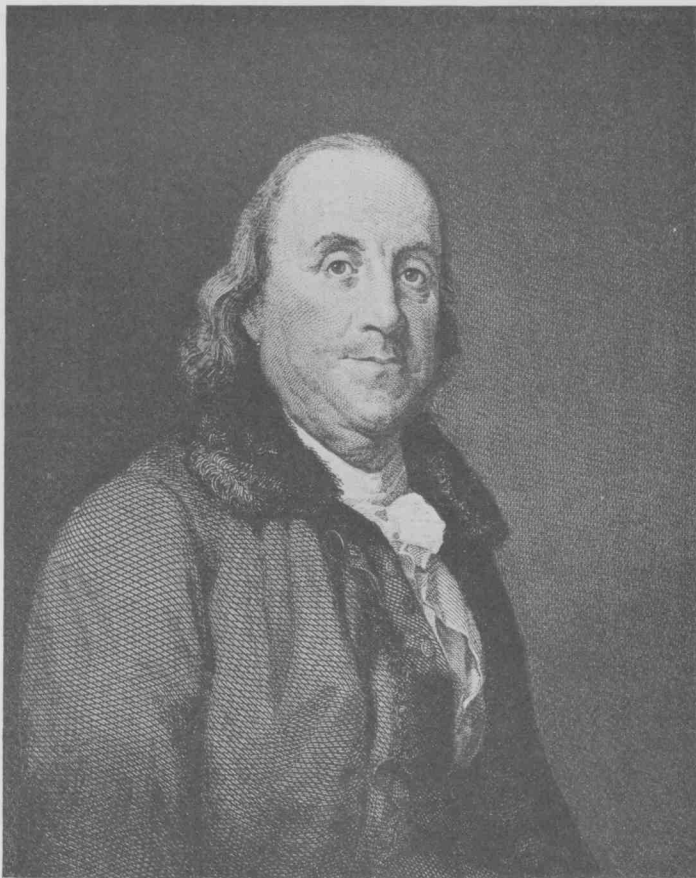
In 1735 work on the stone fort of which Lord Cornbury had laid the foundations in 1703, was resumed and it was soon completed — to remain, though not always in repair, till it was finally removed after the Revolution.

The city and county authorities petitioned the Assembly in 1740 and were granted power to levy a special tax for "new Court House & Goal" and three years later were empowered to levy an additional tax to complete the work. This building was occupied not only by the city authorities but by the courts and the various commissions and other bodies which met in Albany until the erection of the old Capitol on Eagle street, so that it served as City Hall, County Court House and State Capitol by turns.

There had now been a considerable period of relief from French attacks but in 1744 war again broke out between England and France and the colonies were once more exposed to raids from the north and west. These expeditions reached as near as Saratoga and filled Albany with refugees whose farms were burned and who were cared for in the city during the following winter. The soldiers stationed in Albany in addition to its usual garrison were lodged in the three market houses, one in each ward, which were turned into barracks for the purpose. The war continued for several years and Colonel William Johnson, better known because of his later title as Sir William Johnson, came into prominence at this time as Indian agent. The appearance of the Indians at one of these conferences is described in a vivid fashion by William Dunlap, one of the early historians of New York, who says, "When the Indians came near the town of Albany, on the 8th of August, Mr. Johnson put himself at the head of the Mohawks, dressed and painted as an Indian war-captain. The Indians followed him painted for war. As they passed the fort, they saluted by a running fire, which the governor answered by cannon." The Indians were persuaded to join in the war against the French and Johnson sent out parties from the Mohawk valley against the enemy. Susquehanna Indians also appeared during this time and were employed as scouts. As so often happened at that period, an epidemic, thought by some to have been yellow fever, broke out and

carried off a number of both Indians and whites. Later a mutinous spirit among the militia due to the withholding of their pay caused serious trouble which Governor Clinton remedied by advancing some of the pay due them.

Shortly after the peace of 1748, Albany was visited by a Swedish naturalist, Peter Kalm, who has left us a very good description of the



Benj. Franklin

city as it was at that time. "All the yachts which ply between Albany and New York, belong to Albany. * * * They bring from Albany boards or planks, and all sorts of timber, flour, pease, and furs, which they get from the Indians or which are smuggled from the French. They

come home almost empty, and only bring a few merchandises with them, among which rum is the chief. * * * The yachts are pretty large, and have a good cabin, in which the passengers can be very commodiously lodged. They are commonly built of red cedar, or of white oak. * * *

"They sow wheat in the neighborhood of Albany with great advantage. From one bushel they get twelve sometimes; if the soil be good they get twenty bushels. The wheat-flour from Albany is reckoned the best in all North America, except that from Sopus or Kingston, a place between Albany and New York. All the bread in Albany is made of wheat. At New York they pay the Albany flour with several shillings more per hundred weight than that from other places.

"They are unacquainted with stoves, and their chimneys are so wide that one could drive (through) them with a cart and horses. The water of several wells in this town was very cool about this time, but had a kind of acid taste which was not very agreeable. * * * I think this water is not very wholesome for people who are not used to it, though the inhabitants of Albany who drink it every day, say that they do not feel the least inconvenience from it. * * * Almost every house in Albany has its well, the water of which is applied to common use; but for tea, brewing, and washing, they commonly take the water of the river. * * *

"The houses in this town are very neat, and partly built with stones covered with shingles of the White Pine. Some are slated with tiles from Holland, because the clay of this neighborhood is not reckoned fit for tiles. Most of the houses are built in the old way, with the gable-end towards the street; a few excepted, which were lately built in the manner now used. A great number of houses were built like those of New Brunswick (New Jersey), which I have described; the gable-end being built towards the streets of brick and all the other walls of planks. * * * The gutters on the roofs reach almost to the middle of the street. This preserves the walls from being damaged by the rain; but is extremely disagreeable in rainy weather for the people in the streets, there being hardly any means of avoiding the water from the gutters.

"The street-doors are generally in the middle of the houses; and on both sides are seats, on which, during fair weather, the people spend almost the whole day, especially on those which are in the shadow of the houses. In the evening these seats are covered with people of both sexes; but this is rather troublesome, as those who pass by are obliged to greet every body, unless they will shock the politeness of the inhabitants of this town. The streets are broad, and some of them paved; in some parts they are lined with trees: the long streets are almost parallel to the river, and the others intersect them at right angles. The street which goes between the two churches is five times broader than the others, and serves as a market-place. The streets upon the whole are very dirty, because the people leave their cattle in them during the summer nights.

There are two market-places in the town, to which the country people resort twice a week.

"The fort lies higher than any other building, on a high steep hill on the west side of the town. It is a great building of stone, surrounded with high and thick walls. Its situation is very bad, as it can only serve to keep off plundering parties, without being able to sustain a seige. There are numerous high hills to the west of the fort, which command it, and from whence one may see all that is done within it. There is commonly an officer and a number of soldiers quartered in it. They say the fort contains a spring of water.

"The situation of Albany is very advantageous in regard to trade. The river Hudson, which flows close by it, is from twelve to twenty feet

Jos. Murray
J. M. Smith
J. Chambers
Wm. Smith

REPRESENTATIVES OF NEW YORK IN ALBANY CONGRESS, 1754

deep. There is not yet any quay made for the better landing of the yachts, because the people feared it would suffer greatly or be entirely carried away in spring by the ice, which then comes down the river. The vessels which are in use here, may come pretty near the shore in order to be laden, and heavy goods are brought to them upon canoes tied together. * * *

"The greater part of the merchants at Albany have extensive estates in the country and a great deal of wood. If their estates have a little brook, they do not fail to erect a saw-mill upon it for sawing boards and planks, with which commodity many yachts go during the whole summer to New York, having scarce any other lading than boards.

"The inhabitants of Albany and its environs are almost all Dutchmen. They speak Dutch, have Dutch preachers, and divine service is performed in that language: their manners are likewise Dutch; their dress is, however, like that of the English. * * *

"The inhabitants of Albany are much more sparing than the English. The meat which is served up is often insufficient to satisfy the stomach, and the bowl does not circulate so freely as amongst the English. The women are perfectly well acquainted with economy; they rise early, go to sleep very late, and are almost over nice and cleanly in regard to the floor, which is frequently scoured several times in the week. The servants in the town are chiefly negroes. Some of the inhabitants wear their own hair, but it is very short, without a bag or queue, which are looked upon as the characteristics of Frenchmen; and as I wore my hair in a bag the first day I came here from Canada, I was surrounded with children, who called me Frenchman and some of the boldest offered to pull at my French dress."

A renewed state of warfare and the need of assuring the English colonies of the firm support of the Iroquois brought about the Albany Congress of 1754 which was the most significant gathering held here during colonial times. New France was united and there were no provincial legislatures to prevent the execution of the plans of the governor-general. The autocratic government had the virtues of that kind of government but corruption prevailed in the various departments of the State. In their Indian relations the French had been successful with nearly all of the tribes, but not with the most important of all, the Iroquois confederacy. Under the stress of the great peril now upon them and with the order of the British government as direct authority, commissioners from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Maryland met with those of New York at Albany. Indian affairs and the defence of the colonies was the first concern of the Congress and gifts and promises were bestowed on the Indians. The result was not entirely satisfactory and seeds of future trouble were sown in certain land transactions but the friendship of the Indians was held and their assistance in the war obtained. But for the better defence of the colonies it had long been felt that a closer union was needed than occasional meetings of governors or commissioners; suggestions for such union had been made and now it was one of the principal subjects of the conference. Massachusetts indeed had granted her delegates authority to "enter into articles of union and confederation with the aforesaid governments for the general defence of his majesty's subjects and interests in North America as well in time of peace as in war." The plan adopted was one proposed by Benjamin Franklin and frequently referred to at the time as the "Albany Plan." It provided for "one general government" to include all the English colonies in America, each of which was to retain its own separate existence and government. The new government was to be administered by a President General ap-

pointed by the crown and a Grand Council of delegates from the several colonial assemblies, members of the Council to hold office for three years. This federal government was given exclusive control of Indian affairs including the power to make peace and declare war, regulate Indian trade, purchase Indian lands for the crown, raise and pay soldiers, build forts, equip war vessels, levy taxes and appropriate funds. This plan of union was disapproved by the home government because it encroached on the royal prerogative. It was disapproved by the colonies because it did not permit them sufficient independence. Nevertheless

<p>Consent of the members to be proposed for that purpose, and finally, that there be a union of the several colonial governments in the continent, that the said Council, Governor and Assembly may be employed in due proportion against their common Enemy, till which is dissolved.</p>	<p>That the said General Government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, and in their respective Assemblies.</p>
<p>Approved this 9th of July 1754. Albany.</p>	<p>That the said General Government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, and in their respective Assemblies.</p>
<p>Mr. Livingston in the House of Assembly on Wednesday the 10th July 1754. P. M.</p> <p>Consent.</p> <p>That the said Council, Governor and Assembly may be employed in due proportion against their common Enemy, till which is dissolved.</p>	<p>That the said General Government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, and in their respective Assemblies.</p>
<p>Mr. Livingston reported the Council in a new Form of a Plan of Union, agreed to by the Representatives of the Colonies, and approved by the Council, and the Assembly, and the consideration of it deferred to the 10th of July 1754.</p>	<p>That the said General Government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, and in their respective Assemblies.</p>
<p>Mr. Livingston in the House of Assembly on Wednesday the 10th July 1754. P. M.</p>	<p>That the said General Government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, and in their respective Assemblies.</p>
<p>Consent.</p> <p>That the said Council, Governor and Assembly may be employed in due proportion against their common Enemy, till which is dissolved.</p>	<p>That the said General Government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, and in their respective Assemblies.</p>
<p>The consideration of the Plan of a Union was resumed, which Plan is as follows.</p> <p>That the said Council, Governor and Assembly may be employed in due proportion against their common Enemy, till which is dissolved.</p>	<p>That the said General Government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, and in their respective Assemblies.</p>

MINUTES OF ALBANY CONGRESS

this Albany Plan of 1754 paved the way for the later Congress of 1765 and for the Continental Congress of 1774. The need for such a union had been realized before. Now, there was a definite plan to serve as a guide when necessity arose. The author of the plan, Benjamin Franklin, and one of the delegates from Rhode Island, Stephen Hopkins, were later among the immortal signers of the Declaration of Independence.

The following year hostilities were renewed; two of the expeditions of that year left from Albany or passed through the city on their way;

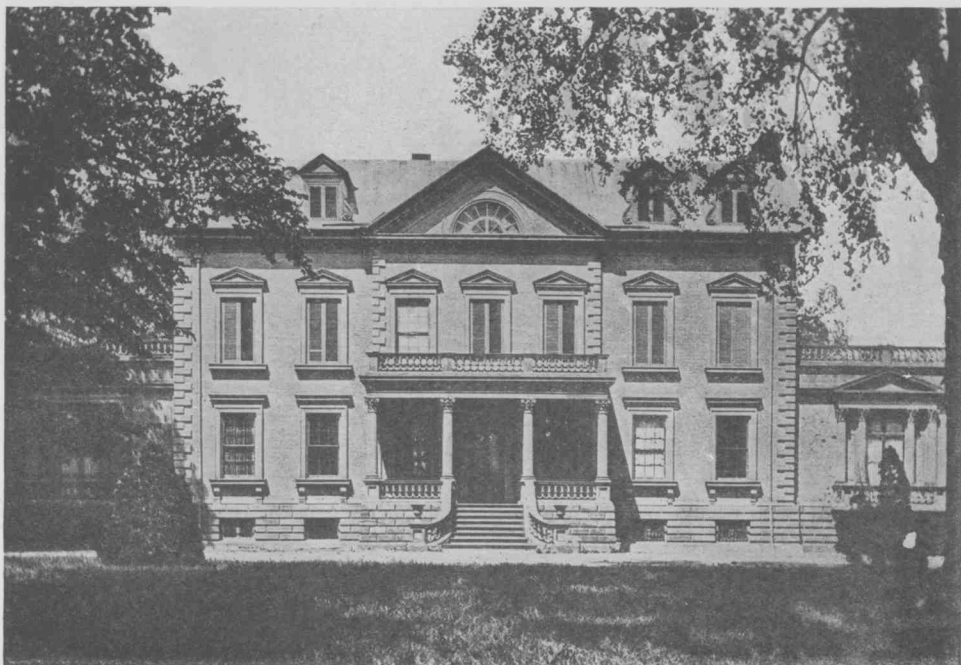
Governor Shirley, of Massachusetts, attempted to reduce Fort Niagara but got no farther than Oswego, where he left a garrison and returned to Albany. The other force was destined for Crown Point and placed under the command of Sir William Johnson. On the way he built a wagon road all the way from Albany to Lake George. The troops of the various colonies were that summer encamped on both sides of the river at Albany and among them was a regiment of Massachusetts men under Col. Ephraim Williams; it was while he was stationed here that the colonel made the will leaving a bequest for a free school which became the foundation of Williams College, for Col. Williams was among



ST. PETER'S CHURCH

the killed in this expedition. Baron Dieskau was defeated and he was himself captured but the want of provisions and transportation made it impossible to advance to Crown Point before winter set in so that the campaign had to be abandoned. Fort William Henry was garrisoned and the general returned to this city with the rest of the forces who were disbanded. In 1756 another attempt was made against the forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point and the city was headquarters for forces of English regulars and colonial soldiery; hundreds of Indians also visited the city. But the efforts of both this year and the next were unsuccessful. In 1758 General Abercromby was in command of the forces but General Howe was the real leader and life of the enterprise and in

him its hopes were centered; the accidental death of this talented officer disheartened the army so as to prevent further progress. From Lake George the body of Lord Howe was brought to the city by Capt. Philip Schuyler and buried with fitting honors in the vault of St. Peter's Church. The northern campaign having been defeated, a detachment of 3000 men under Col. John Bradstreet then went from Albany to Lake Ontario to reduce Fort Frontenac; included in this force were two companies from this city and county. The year 1759 again saw an English army encamped about Albany, this time under Lord Amherst. The French withdrew from the forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point without awaiting the attack and the fall of Quebec and Montreal ended the wars with



VAN RENSSELAER MANOR HOUSE, 1765

the French which had threatened the Hudson and Mohawk valleys from the earliest settlement and had caused the loss of so much life and treasure. Till the outbreak of the war of the American Revolution there was no mustering of thousands upon the plains about the city.

About this time, the exact date of the first services quite uncertain, the Presbyterian church began its work. References are found as early as 1760 with the probability that some progress had already then been made to gather together those who wished such an organization. From 1760 it would appear that there were occasional preaching services and that an organization was effected in 1762, when they received permission to use the forage house near the main guard-house as a place of worship. A meeting house was erected some time later on the plot of

ground granted by the city on the corner of Hudson Avenue and William Street.

During this period of relatively peaceful growth, particular attention seems to have been paid to fire protection; a new engine was secured and leather fire-buckets bought; householders were likewise ordered to possess two buckets marked with the initials of the names of the owners; on an alarm of fire front windows were to be illuminated if at night; chimney sweeps were appointed and their trade protected by the provision that no other person should "presume to cleanse any of the chimneys in the city." A darker side of the town life is revealed in the name of Gallows Hill which seems to have been applied to what was then a hill south of the fort and west of the present South Pearl Street. As the office of public whipper was not a desirable one, the authorities in 1763 bought a bound servant (that is, practically, a slave for a limited period of years) for nine pounds sterling to serve the city in this office for the



SEAL, 1752

remainder of his period of service. It is from this date too that we have the Schuyler mansion and the Van Rensselaer manor house, standing on North Broadway till it was taken down and removed to Williams College some years ago. Of the social life we have a most vivid and interesting account in Mrs. Grant's *Memoirs of an American Lady*, written many years later but remarkably accurate in its historical details and presenting to us the home life of the people with whom Mrs. Grant had lived as a young girl while her father was connected with the British Army.

The need of improved facilities for loading and unloading vessels led the common council at this time to build several stone docks, each eighty feet long and thirty to forty feet broad. Voyages of Albany vessels to the West Indies and to Europe were common enough, the outward-bound cargoes generally flour, fish, lumber, horses; the principal imports were rum and sugar from the West Indies and dry goods, hardware, wines, etc., from England and Holland. Further evidence of prosperity is found in the provision in 1771 for the lighting of the city streets with twenty oil-lamps and the placing of mile-stones along the Schenectady road as far as the half-way house. That year also saw the establishment of printing when Alexander and James Robertson issued the *Albany Gazette*, a newspaper which was like many other newspapers in that its life was short, for its publication ceased the following year.

Politically the agitation over the Stamp Act did not stir Albany till the return of its members from the Assembly when rioting took place. The troubles which afflicted New York City were reflected, but in a much lessened degree, in the life of Albany; in many ways it was enjoying the benefits of the development of the country adjoining; then it was suddenly aroused to the feverish activity of a frontier post in war once more—but that is the story of another period.



LOOKING NORTH ON BROADWAY TOWARD THE DUTCH CHURCH

By Jonathan Eights



VIEW OF STATE STREET LOOKING EAST

By Jonathan Eights

ALBANY DURING THE REVOLUTION

I.

THE LIFE OF THE PEOPLE

By Alexander C. Flick

On the eve of the Revolution Albany was a quiet, inland city of less than three thousand inhabitants. They were soberly occupied with their own petty affairs, and the principal business still consisted of the lucrative fur trade, to which had been added a growing commerce along the water routes, and the inland trails.

The city, which was laid out in a wide strip along the Hudson river, presented a very pleasant aspect, with its broad streets, and well spaced houses, built of brick in the old Dutch style, one story in height, with gable ends like steps stretching skyward. Each house had a large garden. A very wide street, now known as Broadway ran parallel to the Hudson, the intermediate space being used for additional gardens. Fort Frederick topped the small but steep hill, on which the capitol stands today. From the foot of this hill, which rose above the center of the town, another street, State street, sloped steeply to join the street by the river. It was very wide, for in the center stood several of the public buildings of the city. The sides were paved for the use of pedestrians, but the wagon road often became so muddy, that as late as 1792 a wagon belonging to General Philip Schuyler was mired in attempting to come up the hill. At the head of the street, below the fort, was St. Peter's, the old English church, and at the foot stood the ancient Dutch church. Two irregular streets, not broad but equally long, ran parallel to these streets, into which intersecting streets opened. North of State street, Broadway was then known as "Market" street, because here stood the old market house. After the butchers had gone, the old men would bring their chairs and sit in the market place gossiping in the afternoon sun.

In front of each house in the city was a large tree, which had been planted at the birth of some member of the family, shading an elevated open porch where it was the custom of the family to gather on summer evenings. Each family in the city kept a cow, fed in the common pasture at the end of the town. In the evening the cows returned of their own accord to the tuneful sound of the tinkling bells hung at their necks, up the wide and grassy street to be milked at their owners' doors. Neighbors would drift sociably from house to house, groups gathering in accordance with age or common interest, waiting for their frugal supper, which they often ate sitting in the open air. As the evening twilight darkened the lamplighter would be seen hurrying through the streets to attend to the twenty oil lamps by which the city was illuminated.

The inhabitants of Albany were simple, sober and industrious folk, the majority of whom were of Dutch descent. Although English had by this time become the prevailing language, it was not a little corrupted by the Dutch tongue. In some of the remoter settlements in the vicinity of Albany, English was so little known during the period ten or fifteen years before the Revolution, that the sheriffs had difficulty in finding persons sufficiently acquainted with it to serve as jurors.

The first newspaper printed in Albany was published in 1771 by two men, Alexander and James Robertson, and known as the "Albany Gazette." In 1772 they apologized for its non-appearance because they had been unable to get paper from New York with any regularity and on another occasion the paper had frozen into a single, solid mass. This paper, a small quarto sheet, was discontinued about the beginning of the Revolution because its editors were tories. In 1772 the first book store in the city was established on the northwest corner of Pearl and State streets.

Life had not yet become sufficiently complicated in Albany to require the services of many professional men. There were very few lawyers and not many doctors, though a number of medical quacks. Albany was so far inland that the people did not attempt to follow the latest modes and fashions of the Europeans. The greater part of their social customs were those brought over from Holland by their ancestors, necessarily modified by a new environment. The people lived frugally, although they were exceedingly sociable, and visited one another frequently. Their houses were kept in such spotless order that it was impossible to surprise the housewife. Mrs. Grant, a Scotch woman, who lived in Albany several years, and left a few years prior to the Revolution, wrote: "Of the more substantial luxuries of the table they knew little, and of the formal ceremonious parts of good breeding still less." Visitors were welcomed, but they must share the simple repast of the family, which usually consisted of game, or fish in season, fruit and plainly prepared vegetables. Tea was the only meal for which it was customary to make an additional display for guests. On these occasions preserved fruit, cheese and all manner of pastry and confectionery, which the Albanians excelled in making, would be served.

The Albanians felt no need for elaborate amusements. The children of the town divided themselves into cliques called "companies," in which all the social life of the young people centered. The members frequently entertained the "company" at their homes. Before the children arrived the master and mistress left the house, ordering a servant to attend to their wants. In the summer the "companies" paddled up the river on picnics, or rambled inland on berry-picking excursions. Some older boy in each "company" was recognized as leader. Members of a "company" seldom married out of their own little group.

During the winter months the boys of Albany delighted in coasting down the steep wagon road, which ran through the great street of the

city. Here, no modern traffic spoiled the fun. The entire town took an interest in the sport. Many a chilly winter evening the neighboring porticoes were crowded with fur-wrapped people, engrossed in this "delectable spectacle," who remained until ten or eleven at night. Whenever an unlucky "charioteer" was thrown from his sled, the spectators, who doubtless had brothers, sons, or sweethearts among the sliders, would shout with good-natured laughter. After marriage sliding was given up in deference to the newly acquired dignity.

In Albany a well-to-do family usually owned three or four slaves, who were universally treated with great kindness. At three years of age a child was given a slave of his or her own age and sex. Too intimate relations with the negroes were frowned upon as creating a race of ambiguous position in the scheme of society. Mulattoes were practically unseen before the arrival of the British troops in the city. Although the Indians were numerous in the vicinity of Albany, they were apparently never employed as either servants or laborers. During the summer detached Indian families would camp near the home of some wealthy settler to carry on trade in the articles which the women ingeniously manufactured.

There was constant and great danger of fire, which those who governed the city realized. As early as 1762 the city had purchased a Fire Engine "of the fifth size" for 55£ from a London firm, with instructions to send it "per the first safe opportunity, and make full insurance thereon." The following year 39£ was spent for leather buckets. Two persons in each ward were annually appointed "Fire Warden" to inspect the chimneys in their wards each fortnight. The following curious ordinance appeared in the records of this period: "It seems astonishing that in a Christian country, where the essential principles of professed religion lay people under an indispensable obligation to do to others as they would others should do unto them, that some should see their neighbors houses on fire and not use their utmost endeavors to assist them to quench it; notwithstanding experience shows that there are people so far abandoned as to appear, as it were, to shew their indifference, and instead of assisting, a duty required by the laws of Christianity and nature, often impede and hinder others from assisting their neighbors in such casualty and distress."

To remedy such "remissness" the mayor, the recorder, the first two aldermen, and the sheriff were ordered to be present and direct the efforts of the people in extinguishing fires. When conflagrations occurred, persons living in neighboring houses were required to put three or more candles in their windows. Every house with two chimneys had to have two buckets with the initials of the householder on them. Tavern keepers were ordered to have three. If anyone failed to return a bucket, lost in the confusion of a fire, he was heavily fined. Thus both honesty and economy were encouraged. The fire engine played

an important part in the lives of the Albanians. Frequent mention was made in the town records of amounts spent for its maintenance and repair. In May 1778 the Common Council directed "that Mr. Isaac Fonda shall take to his house, and repair the Fire Engine with all possible expedition."

In the opening days of the Revolution there were but few schools in Albany. A writer, a few years prior to this period, said: "Our schools are of the lowest order, the Instructors want Instruction, and through a long, shameful Neglect of all the Arts and Sciences, our common Speech is extremely corrupt, and Evidence of a bad taste, both as to Thought and Language, are visible in all our Proceedings Publick and Private." The founding of the Academy in 1779 was the first sign of an awakening desire to improve the local cultural conditions. Mr. George Merchant, of Philadelphia, was appointed the first "Rector" by the Common Council, and the school began its sessions in the old "Vanderheyden Palace."

The direction of the Academy became a part of the duties of that versatile body, the Common Council. In November 1780 it ordered the clerk to buy an iron stove to heat the school during the winter months. Two assistant masters were in time hired to aid Mr. Merchant. The first public examination was attended by the entire Common Council. A somewhat plaintive proof that the schoolboy's love of mischief was a trial to Mr. Merchant, and the Council as well, was the request sent by the Council to him that he report in full the extent of wanton breaking of glass.

Although the greater part of the people attended either the Reformed Dutch church, or St. Peter's, of the Church of England, there was no prejudice against the formation of new sects. In 1774 Mother Ann Lee founded the first settlement of the Shakers in America four miles west of Albany. Although inclined to religious tolerance, the Albanians upheld a strict observance of the Sabbath. In 1779 an ordinance was passed by the Common Council against the playing of ball against houses of worship.

II

THE TRIUMPH OF SELF-GOVERNMENT DURING THE REVOLUTION

From the incorporation of Albany as a city under royal charter in 1686 until 1776 the city was governed by a mayor, recorder, six aldermen and as many assistants, who together formed the Common Council. The mayor was appointed by the royal governor, but the aldermen and their assistants were elected by the voters yearly on the Feast Day of St. Michael. Two years before the outbreak of the Revolution there had been some trouble about the validity of an election, at which time minute election ordinances were passed by the Common Council. The franchise was broad, allowing any free male of 21 years of age, who

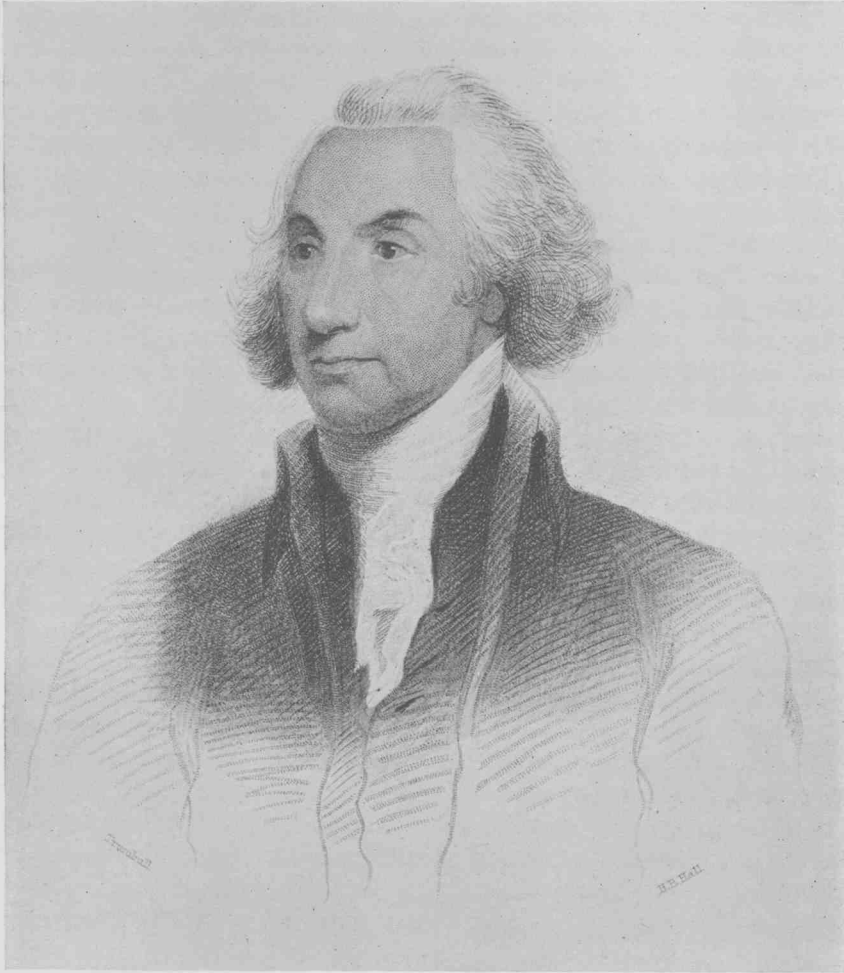
had been born in the British Dominions, and who had resided in Albany six weeks to vote in the ward in which he resided. This appearance of popular government was denied, however, by the constant reappearance of the same names in the city records, which makes it plain that in practice an oligarchy of a dozen or more wealthy families perpetuated themselves in power.

The authority of the Common Council was extensive, and associated with every phase of the life of the people. Although the Albanians had never heard of state socialism, nevertheless, regulation of the prices not only of foodstuffs and liquor, but also of the amount which a tavern keeper could legitimately charge for board and lodging, was regarded not merely as a right of the Council, but as one of its essential duties. Prices fluctuated in the ordinances, issued from year to year, even including the amount to be charged for supplying bedding and fodder for a horse over night. The land belonging to the city by purchase and charter was also under the jurisdiction of the Common Council, and the minutes of its proceedings were filled with items concerning collection of rents, and the disposal of land by sale. The administration of justice was somewhat crude and cruel, for it was the policy of the Council to either buy, or hire a public whipper. He was boarded out, and yearly appropriations made for his maintenance.

As early as 1766 a growing dissatisfaction with government under the Crown took root in Albany. Lieutenant-Governor Colden wrote of the hostility of the inhabitants to the Stamp Act: "The City of Albany remained quiet until after the return of their members from the Assembly. Then they excited most unaccountable riots in that place." These riots of an angry populace filled with resentment at the tyranny of Great Britain were hard to quell, for during the summer it was necessary to send a detachment of the forty-sixth English regiment to Albany. Many of the rioters were arrested, and the remainder fled to Massachusetts and Connecticut, where they were "protected by the magistrates."

The opening events of the Revolution gradually divided the people of Albany into two factions diverging as to the wisest course to follow. In New York, perhaps to a larger extent than in any of the other colonies, there was a sentiment that the hardships and losses of war would be more difficult to bear than the oppressive acts of parliament. Many of the great landholders in the vicinity of Albany were fixedly opposed to any alteration of the status quo. They remained stubbornly loyal to England throughout the war. They were the conservatives of that period, who scorned to join the revolutionary rabble. On the other hand, many persons of wealth and prominence, such as Colonel Philip Schuyler, and the Livingstons, embraced and warmly supported the cause of Independence. Also among the loyalists there were struggling settlers, who "from the Tenure under which they hold their Lands and Monies due on Mortgages from others" were "more open to seduction."

The official attitude taken by the Common Council of Albany was strictly loyal. A letter written to the Earl of Dunmore in 1770 typifies its attitude as late as 1775 or 1776. This stated: "We should be wanting in gratitude if we did not assure your Lordship of our best Affec-



Jh. Schuyler

tions to our most gracious Sovereign," but added tactfully, "We make not the least doubt that the Rights, Privileges, and Immunities of our City as granted will be inviolably preserved." This attitude of the

Common Council increased the distrust of the populace toward the loyalist mayor, Abraham C. Cuyler, and the aldermen to such an extent that in 1774 they took the first step in the direction of forming a government of their own by creating a committee of correspondence to communicate with other cities and guard the rights and welfare of the people. With the formation of this committee a new type of citizen began to take a prominent part in the political development of the city. John Barclay, a man of common education, whose name does not appear prior to this time in the city records, was appointed chairman, a position which he held for nearly three years, afterward becoming the city's first mayor under the new constitution of the state of New York.

In 1775 Colonel Philip Schuyler moved in the New York assembly that the act of George III in imposing duties, and depriving the colonists of the right of trial by jury were great grievances. His resolution was carried by a large majority of those present. In the same year delegates were chosen by the committee of correspondence to represent the city and county of Albany in the Provincial Congress convened in New York. Those elected were: Colonel Philip Schuyler, Abraham Yates Jr., Colonel Abraham Ten Broeck, Walter Livingston, and Colonel Peter R. Livingston.

The news of the battle of Lexington created much excitement in Albany. The committee of correspondence determined to call a huge mass meeting. Lucius Cassidy was sent through the streets beating a drum to attract the attention of the people and to inform them of the important news. At the time appointed for the meeting John Ostrander went about the city ringing a bell to summon everyone to the market house.

The market house and adjoining streets were crowded. An enthusiastic mob shouted "yea" to the resolutions, which were offered by the committee for popular approval. The appointment of a committee of safety, protection and correspondence was endorsed, and 21 members were chosen by the people. It was agreed to co-operate with their "Brethren in New York, and the several Colonies on the Continent, in their opposition to the Ministerial Plan." The same day the committee wrote to Boston: "While we lament the mournful Event, which has caused the Blood of our Brethren in the Massachusetts Bay to flow, we feel that satisfaction which every honest American must experience at the Glorious stand you have made. . . . The Inhabitants of this City convened and unanimously renewed their former Agreement that they would Co-operate with our Brethren." Donations were sent to poor in Boston.

Ignoring the refusal of the Common Council to form a night watch, the committee of safety and correspondence organized a guard of citizens. This negative attitude of the Council, who had declared that, while individually they favored the project as a board they could take no

action, gradually lessened the influence of the Council until 1776, when it ceased to function altogether. Its duties were taken over by the committee of safety and correspondence.

That very few citizens thought in 1775 that reconciliation would not come is proved by a compact signed by most of the important citizens of Albany city and county toward the end of May in that year. While the signers "resolved never to become slaves," nevertheless they proposed to create some sort of organization in order to "prevent Anarchy and Confusion, which attends the Dissolution of Government," and at the same time stated significantly that such an organization was to exist only until a reconciliation on constitutional principles, which "is ardently desired," could be effected.

It was a matter of great importance to the colonists that the Six Nations should at least remain neutral in the struggle. In 1775, Congress had, accordingly, appointed a committee headed by General Schuyler to make the chain of friendship bright and strong. Albany, by virtue of its position, was chosen as the meeting place. The conferences were held in the Dutch and Presbyterian churches. Unfortunately, the good work of this conference was speedily undone by a plague, which swept over the Indian villages, the Tories persuading the Red Men that it was caused by the anger of the Great Spirit at their alliance with the revolutionists.

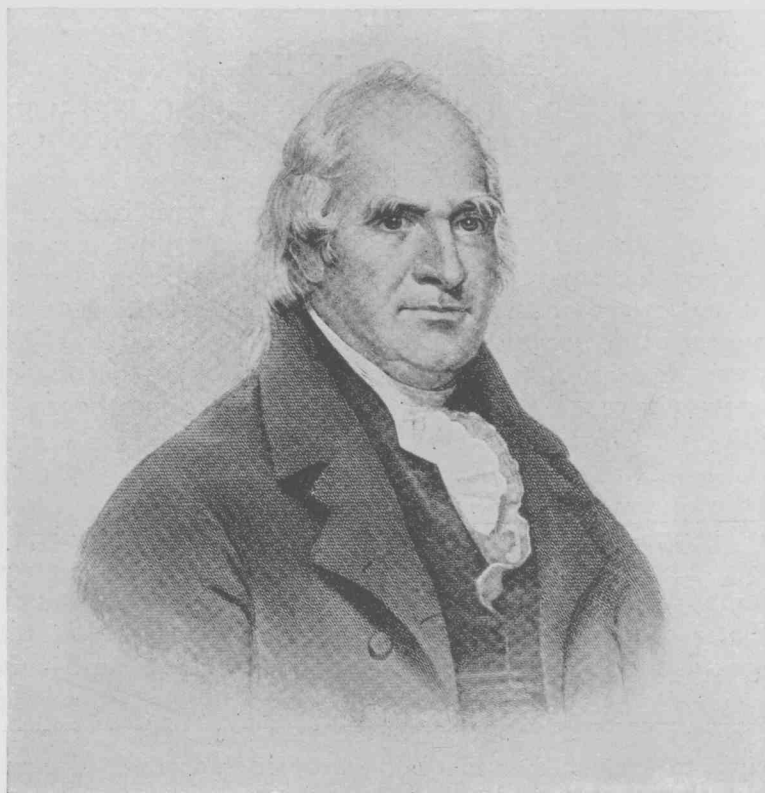
A representative from New York in the Continental Congress voiced the opinion of many when he said that "public opinion is not ripe" for declaring independence. When the question was sent to the colonies for decision, New York was the last to answer. And, when the resolution to draw up a Declaration of Independence was passed, the delegates from New York were uninstructed and did not vote. In spite of this, Robert Livingston of New York City was on the committee, which drew up the Declaration, and Philip Livingston, an Albanian, was one of the signers. Not until July 9 was the Declaration formally adopted by the colony of New York.

On Friday July 19, a great throng of citizens and soldiers filled the streets, now Hudson Avenue and Broadway, at their intersection at the city hall, and the Declaration of Independence was read aloud. In the minutes of the committee of safety and correspondence it was described as having been received with "applause and satisfaction."

After the adoption of the Declaration, the "Provincial Congress for the Colony of New York," meeting at White Plains, changed its name to the "Convention of the Representatives of the State of New York," and on the first of August appointed a committee to report a constitution. In March 1777 a draft for the constitution was presented and in April the instrument was adopted. George Clinton was elected the first governor.

In 1778 the legislature passed an act entitled "Act to remove doubts

concerning the corporation of the city of Albany." On April 17 of that year John Barclay, then chairman of the committee of safety and correspondence, was appointed by the Council of Appointment under a commission issued by Governor Clinton under the seal of the state of New York, mayor, clerk of markets and coroner of the city of Albany.



Geo Clinton

An election of aldermen was held for the first time in two years, and those elected, with the mayor and other officers, took the oath of allegiance to the sovereign State of New York.

Two years later in 1780 the Common Council felt that, because of the change in conditions since the royal charter was granted, it no

longer satisfied the needs of the people. Accordingly, a committee of three was appointed to draw up a petition recommending certain changes to the legislature. Some old privileges were surrendered and new ones asked. Seven years later this petition was granted. In this same year, 1780, the legislature met in Albany for the first time.

III.

MILITARY EVENTS

The Colony of New York was the keystone in the colonial arch in the struggle for independence. Consequently, the British throughout the war contemplated the capture of the Hudson River Basin. During the entire war the British looked upon Albany with covetous eyes as "a capital object to be subdued." Albany was the converging point of the river traffic north and south, and westward, for near here the two great waterways of the colony met. The revolutionists used the city throughout the war as a "Magazine of Stores and Provisions" for the northern division of the Continental army, which had the effect of rendering its seizure more important to the English commanders.

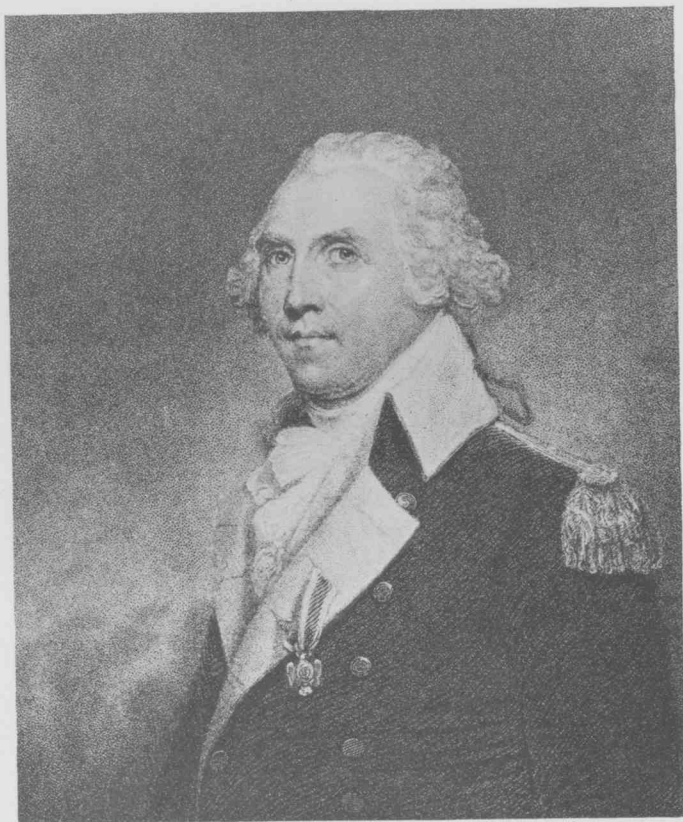
In writing to Governor Clinton in 1778 the Common Council stated that the inhabitants of Albany "were some of the first who stepped forth in the contest." On the 4th of May, 1775, a few weeks after the battle of Lexington, the patriots of the city gathered together and formed themselves into military companies. Each unit consisted of a captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, and 51 privates. Later in this same year two companies of volunteers were sent to help guard the stores captured by Ethan Allen at Fort Ticonderoga.

While the city still swarmed with Indians attending the conference in 1775, contingents of soldiers for the reinforcement of the northern army began to arrive. These troops were in sad need of equipment, lacking blankets, guns and uniforms. Among them was a regiment under Lieutenant-Colonel Van Cortland. All the available quarters in the town were crowded with Indians, and the men complained bitterly against being herded in market boats "as a parcel of sheep or calves." Abraham Yates, Junior, the chairman of the Albany committee of safety and correspondence, wrote to Peter Van Brugh Livingston, the president of the Provincial Congress in New York, about conditions in Albany at this time: "We expected when the army was once organized, we should not be so frequently called upon about matters not in our province. But the situation of Colonel Van Cortland and the men under his command, in a great measure obliges us to give him all the assistance in our power—not, however, that it is to be made a precedent of."

Until the end of the war contingents of troops sent whether up or down the river continued to pass through Albany. At intervals large

numbers of troops were stationed here. In 1778 the Common Council wrote to Governor Clinton, urgently requesting that no more soldiers than could be quartered in the barracks and hospitals should be garrisoned in the city.

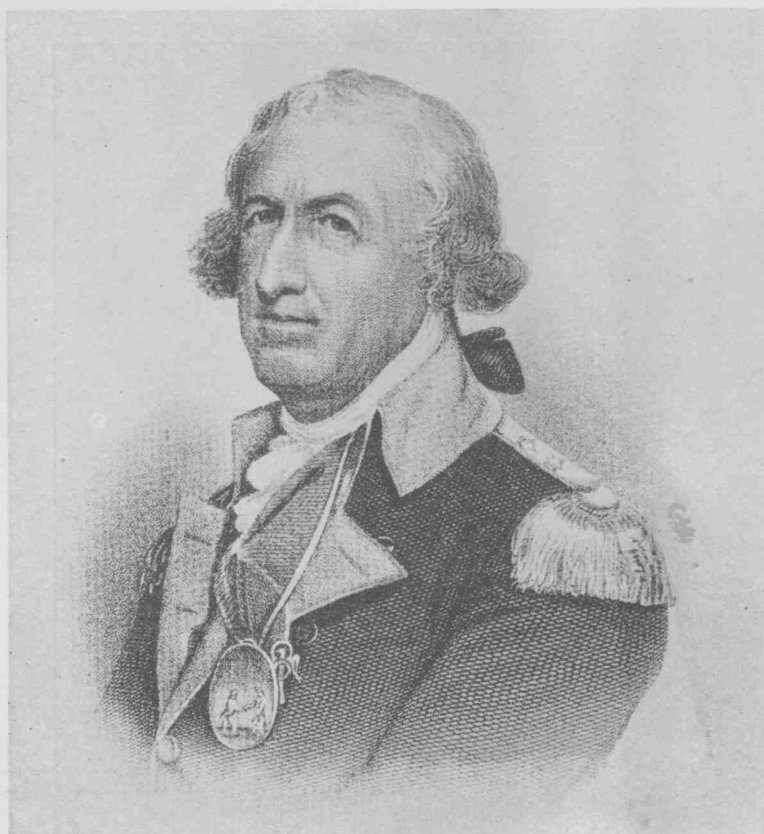
The constant presence of troops was a source of great annoyance to the civilian population. They were often men of a boisterous character,



Peter Gunswort

who delighted to fire off their guns, frightening the inhabitants, or forcing them to put candles in their windows. In 1779 the Common Council found it necessary to send a request to General Clinton asking him to issue general orders that the chimneys of the barracks and hospital be swept at least every three weeks. The following year the

troops quartered in the hospital exhausted the water supply in the second ward to such an extent, that the Council was forced to pass an ordinance forbidding any person to draw water, until the wells and cisterns were full again. A fine of 40 shillings was imposed on anyone failing to obey this ordinance.



Horatio Gates

The issue of the military contest centered in New York in 1777. The British attempted to execute their famous three-way campaign, which was to serve the double purpose of cutting the colonies in two, thus separating the seditious elements in New England from Virginia, and of subduing New York, which was considered the most loyal of the colonies, and therefore the most easily reduced to submission. General Burgoyne coming down from Canada by the way of Lake Champlain

was to meet Colonel St. Leger, who with Sir John Johnson and his tory supporters and Indian allies was to advance up the Mohawk valley, and together they were to join General Howe, who was to come up the Hudson, at Albany. It was an anxious year for the patriots, and the cause of colonial independence. The brunt of its defense rested largely



J. Burgoyne

on two Albanians: General Philip Schuyler, who commanded the northern division of the Continental army, and Colonel Peter Gansevoort, who was stationed at Fort Stanwix in the Mohawk valley.



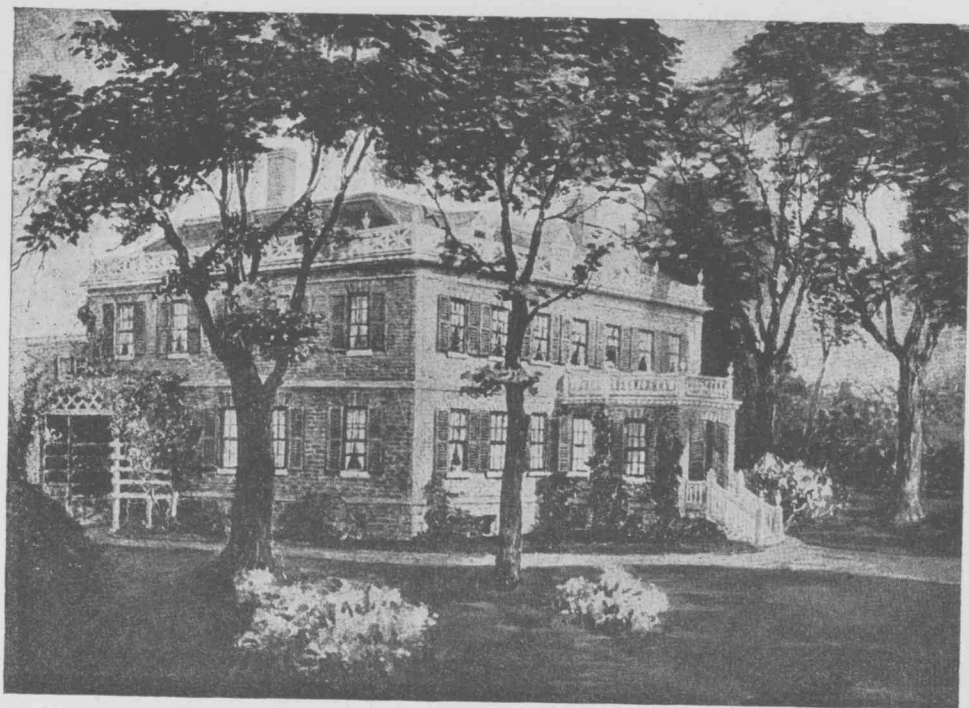
SURRENDER OF BURGOYNE, 1777



SCHUYLER MANSION

Room Occupied by General Burgoyne, 1777

Philip Schuyler had taken an active part, since the beginning of the struggle. In 1775 he had been recommended to the Continental Congress, by the Provincial Congress in New York, as "the most proper in the colony of New York to be appointed a major-general." Later in that same year he was given command of the Army of the Northern Department. General Schuyler's task was not an easy one, and his insufficiently equipped troops were few in number. Writing to General Washington in July 1777 he said: "Desertion prevails, and disease gains ground, nor is it to be wondered at, for we have neither tents, houses, barns, or any shelter except a little brush:—We are besides in great want of every kind of necessities, provisions excepted. Camp



SCHUYLER MANSION

Erected 1761

kettles we have so few that we cannot afford one to every twenty men." In August, after retreating from Saratoga to Stillwater, he wrote again: "Not a man in the Militia now with me will remain above one week longer, and while our force is diminishing that of the enemy augments by constant acquisition of tories." A few days later, despondent and weary, he retreated still further, and encamped with his remaining force on Van Schaick's island.

In his desperate need General Schuyler begged the committee of safety

in Albany "to collect such lead as is in the city," and continued, "the lead windows and weights may, perhaps, afford a supply for the present. As soon as it is collected Mr. Rensselaer will have it made into ball, and sent up without a moments delay. Should a wagon be sent off with one box, as soon as it is ready it must be pushed off; also all the buck shot." This request was complied with, after some delay.

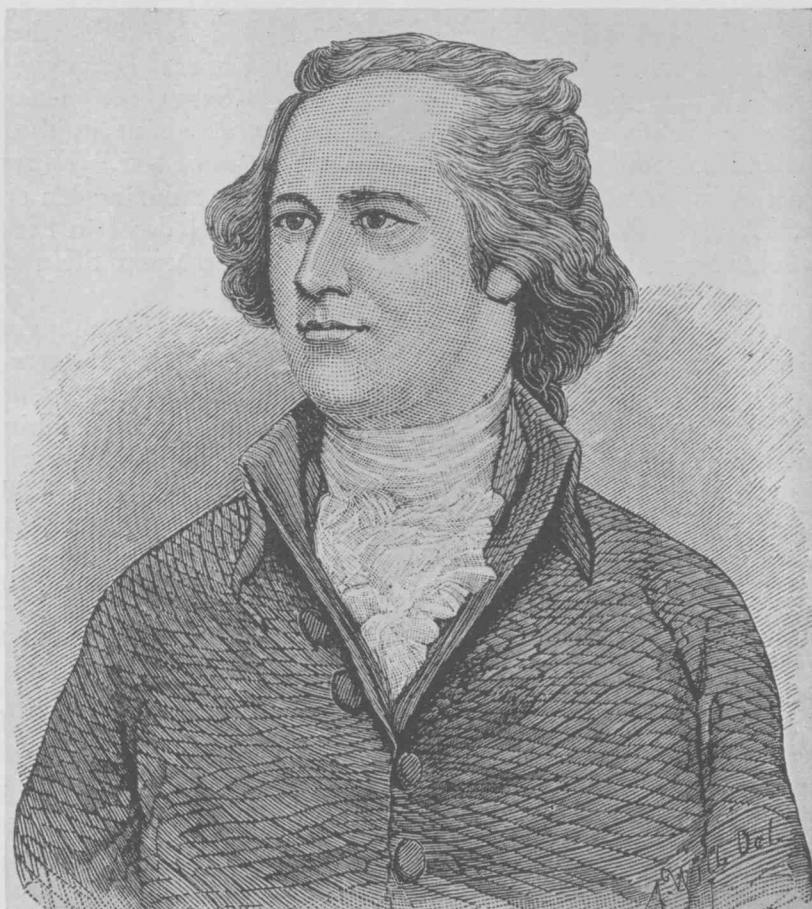


SCHUYLER MANSION

Bannister Marked by Indian Tomahawk

Sickness, desertion, and lack of supplies were not the only things with which General Schuyler had to contend, for he was not popular with the New England faction, which had much influence in the Continental Congress. The committee of safety and correspondence in Albany, well aware that an effort was being made to make him appear at a disad-

vantage, passed a resolution "to prevent malicious reports against General Schuyler." On the 6th of August, however, as General Schuyler, who had been in Albany to attend to some important matters in connection with relief of Fort Stanwix, was standing in front of his house in the southern part of the city, ready to mount his horse and ride back to his army, an officer rode up and handed him a dispatch. It contained a copy of the resolution of the Continental Congress relieving him of his



ALEXANDER HAMILTON

command and giving it to General Horatio Gates. Like a true patriot, Schuyler smothered all feeling of personal resentment, and, when General Gates arrived, he gave him what information he could about the British and offered his services. Instead of availing himself of this generous offer, General Gates excluded him from his first war council.

In the meantime Albany was filled with apprehension prior to the impending battle. The city was crowded with refugees, who had fled

before the advancing British army. Farmers with the members of their households, arrived daily as General Burgoyne moved forward. Houses, which had been abandoned by tories going to New York, were converted into hospitals for the sick and wounded soldiers, who had been sent back to the city to recuperate. In order to provide pasture for the cattle of the refugees, the committee of safety and correspondence ordered that the "large Tract of Pasture Ground," belonging to certain tories, be used.

Word of the surrender of General Burgoyne was brought to General Schuyler at his home in Albany. He hastened to Saratoga, where he was introduced to the defeated general. When General Burgoyne apologised for his part in the destruction of General Schuyler's mansion in Schuylerville, Schuyler replied: "Think no more about it, the occasion justified it according to the principles and rules of war." Burgoyne was generously entertained at Schuyler's own home during his stay in Albany. A vivid description is given by Madam Riedesel in her journal of Schuyler's kindness to her and her children upon their arrival in the American camp.

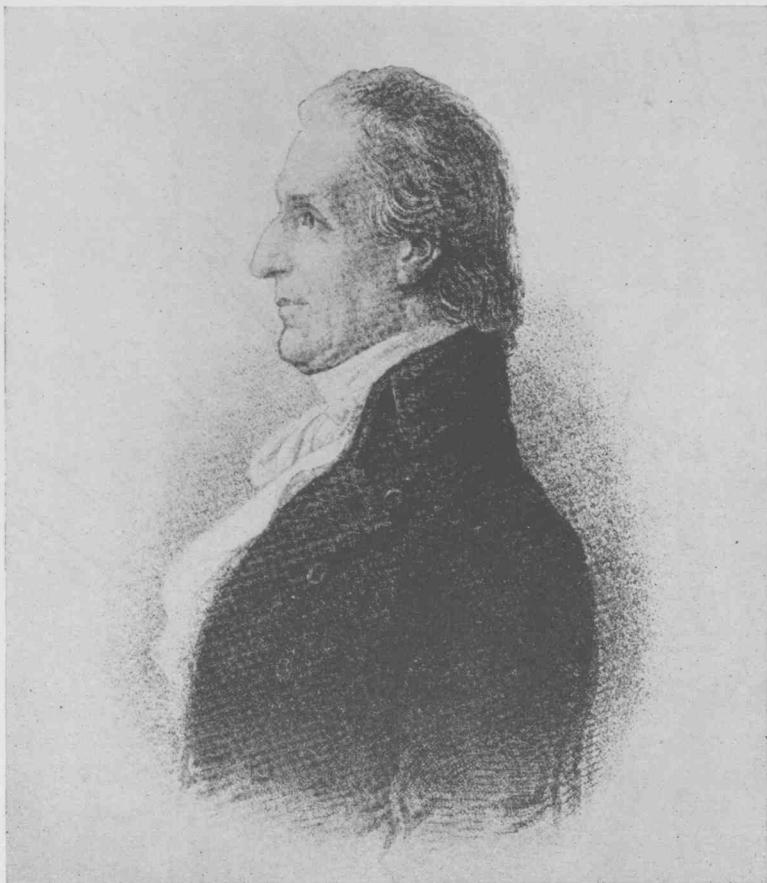
Albany was the logical place of confinement for British prisoners taken in the northern and western parts of the State. A letter written April 18, 1778, by General Clinton to John Barclay, then mayor, spoke of the apprehension which the Albanians felt of a combination between the prisoners and tories, after the surrender of General Burgoyne. General Clinton requested the return of more troops to Albany, because of the exposed condition of the stores. He mentioned the possibility of an attack from hostile Indians and "Internal Foes," and directed that the prisoners be sent eastward.

Conditions in the city were wretched. There was constant fear of the numerous tories. After the defeat of Colonel St. Leger, Sir John Johnson with his tory regiment of "Royal Greens," and Indian allies under Joseph Brant revengefully raided the Mohawk valley. These "blue-eyed" Indians fell upon their former neighbors, and mercilessly murdered them. In 1781 an attack was even made on Schuyler's house in Albany. The frightened family were able to make a hurried escape up the stairs. One of the attacking party hurled a tomahawk at Margaret Schuyler, one of the General's daughters, as she fled up the stairs with her younger sister in her arms, which narrowly missing her buried itself in the wood of the banister.

During the spring of 1778 the Common Council wrote to General Gates expressing fear of a conspiracy among the negroes, British prisoners and the "disaffected," who were "driven to Desperation." Ten days after this letter was written, a part of a regiment of militia was attacked in the vicinity of Albany by the tories and savages. They were unable to sustain the assault, and eleven or twelve of them were killed. The news of this defeat was written to General Stark by three of the

officers begging for reinforcements and grape shot for a small field piece which was in their possession.

General Ten Broeck laid this letter before the Common Council, and that body, greatly alarmed, wrote immediately to General Stark asking that he remove all of the British prisoners then in Albany to Poughkeepsie. They also wrote to Governor Clinton, inclosing the letter of



Marinus Willett

the officers which described the attack, and stated that the fear of Indian ravages and tory uprisings made the militia unwilling to leave their homes unprotected. In conclusion they said: "But we presume were your Excellency to favour this part of the State with your presence it might revive the Spirits of the People and have a good Effect."

Despite the protests of the Common Council, the revolutionary troops stationed in Albany were moved to Fishkill. The Council, fearful because of the unprotected condition of the city, formed a citizen guard to mount every night at the City Hall. Any person refusing to serve was fined 40 shillings. Later the Council wrote to the representatives in the Senate and Assembly of the State, deploring the fact that many



Lafayette

delinquents went unpunished, and asking that an act be passed "impowering this board or General Ten Broeck to order a Night Watch, and punish delinquents."

During the next three years Albany was in constant fear of invasion. In 1779 Colonel Gansevoort attacked the Indians at the lower Mohawk castle and destroyed their stronghold. Brant continued his raids on

the surrounding country, and on July 19, 1781, there was an engagement at Turlough, Tryon county, between his forces and an inferior force under the command of Colonel Marinus Willett. Willett routed the Indians, and the Common Council rewarded him with the "freedom of the city."

Rumors of a British advance through Canada were persistent. Early in the spring of 1782 the Common Council, co-operating with Schenectady, raised funds by subscription to send a scouting party into the northern part of the State. Reports that the city was to be burned frightened the inhabitants. There was great fear that the British would move up the Hudson from New York. During the summer the Common Council sent a letter to Governor Clinton, asking that 100 men be kept in the city. General Gansevoort met with the Common Council to consider plans for the defense of the city. At their request he called out the militia and informed them of the rumored approach of the enemy.

The news of the Provisional Peace was received at Albany with great rejoicing. The Common Council voted the messenger who brought the tidings a reward for his "assiduity and dispatch."

The later part of the war had been a period of great economic distress for Albany. In 1779 the Common Council had been forced to write to the principal inhabitants of the county begging them to send all available wheat to the city at a reasonable price. Robberies and murders had become frequent. Many of the poorer tenant farmers were utterly beggared. In 1778 the committee of safety and correspondence raised a subscription to aid the ruined settlers on the Indian frontiers. Prices were high and the Continental currency much depreciated. In an effort at stabilization the committee had forbidden anyone to receive less for an article in gold or silver than in Continental currency. Moses R. Van Vranken was arrested for buying butter for one shilling a pound in specie, and selling it for six shillings and eight pence a pound Continental currency. Two citizens, Daniel Campbell and John Sanders, were arrested for refusing to accept Continental currency.

A new tract of land had been ceded to the city, as a part of the spoils of war snatched from the Mohawks. Refugees flying before Burgoyne's army had been granted land and settled near the city.

Albany had played an honorable part in the successful Revolution, comparable to that of any city on the continent. Its citizens had won distinction in the service of their country, both on the battle field and in the legislative councils of the State and nation. The city had drawn generously upon its resources to supply the struggling army of the northern division during the anxious days of 1777. The Albanians had for the most part loyally supported the cause of independence with sacrifice and service. At the close of the war, they set to work with zest to build up their neglected trade. The results of years of peaceful under-

standing with the Indians had been lost during the conflict and it was necessary to recover their friendship.

During the struggle Albany had learned the lesson of popular self-government. Distrust of its government under the Crown had led to the formation of a government which was responsible to the people. This lesson learned in the distress of war was to prove of lasting benefit in the years of peace and prosperity which were to follow.

In 1783 General Washington visited Albany for the second time, accompanied by Governor Clinton. They were welcomed with great rejoicing and invited by the Common Council to a public dinner. Washington rising to reply to the address of welcome said: "I can not but take a particular interest in the anticipation of the increase in prosperity and greatness of this ancient and respectable City of Albany, from whose Citizens I have received such distinguished tokens of their approbation and affection."

ALBANY OF TO-DAY

By Cuyler Reynolds

The City has celebrated many anniversaries in the past. Each one marked a certain era, and the procedure was planned to bring out the point of special significance.

We, of To-day, have our own particular plans because we are not alone considering the past as proof of accomplishment; but point with pride to intended advancement.

We cannot follow old methods if we would, for a glance at the official City action taken by the Common Council in 1786, when Albany celebrated the Centennial of its Charter, shows it to be impossible.

It was resolved by the Aldermen on July 15, 1786, to celebrate, and at the meeting held July 18th, the plan was outlined.

The observance included the ringing of bells, the discharge of cannon, and a monster parade.

The Ordinance then provided: "And at the arrival at the place assigned for the purpose, on the hill, thirteen toasts, and one for the Charter, under the discharge of fourteen cannon, and that a barrel of good spirits be purchased for the occasion."

The City Clerk records its passage by unanimous vote. He carried out the order of the Common Council, and the celebration was duly observed in the best of spirits.

STATE CAPITAL

The importance of Albany as a seat for the State Government was decided upon shortly after the Revolution, when the various states began to function in the manner that they do to-day.

This had its auspicious forecast when the Colonial Congress, the first ever held in this country in order to form an official union of colonies, met here to take action which was the forerunner of a union of States.

It was opened on Wednesday, June 19, 1754, in the City Hall, then located at the northeast corner of Court (Broadway) and Spanish (Hudson ave.) streets.

The list of delegates included famous names, such as Benjamin Franklin, Roger Wolcott, Benjamin Tasker, Stephen Hopkins, John Chandler, Henry Sherburne, Oliver Partridge and Elisha Williams. This Congress adjourned on July 11th, after naming Philadelphia as the next place for a meeting.

The message of the Declaration of Independence was brought from Philadelphia by a horseback rider, and read aloud from the same City

Hall down by the river, on July 19, 1776, a great multitude gathering and cheering vociferously.

On August 1, 1776, the Convention appointed a committee to draft a Constitution, and several Albany men were honored upon the small list, which was composed of the Hon. Abraham Yates, Jr., who was later a Mayor of this city; Hon. Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor, of a distinguished Albany family; Robert Yates, Samuel Townsend, Charles DeWitt, Hon. John Jay, later on the Governor; Hon. William Duer, later our United States Senator; Hon. James Duane, distinguished in the Revolution; John Sloss Hobart, William Smith, Hon. Gouverneur Morris, John Broome, Henry Wisner and John Morin Scott.

The first session of the Legislature was held in Kingston, N. Y., on September 9, 1777; but being dispersed by the British troops on October 7th, the second session was held in Poughkeepsie, January 15, 1778. The first Governor was the Hon. George Clinton.

Our first United States Senators were General Philip Schuyler and Hon. Rufus H. King.

The first State Senators representing this district as then constituted, were Hon. Philip Schuyler, Hon. Dirck Wessel Ten Broeck, Hon. Volckert Petrus Douw and Hon. Reinier Mynderse.

The first Assemblymen, as the district was constituted, were Gerrit Abeel, Matthew Adgate and Flores Bancker.

Albany was made the permanent Capital of the State of New York by a law enacted on March 10, 1797.

The first session of the Legislature to meet in Albany was convened in the Stadt Huys, or City Hall, at the northeast corner of Broadway and Hudson avenue, on January 27, 1780.

Hon. John Jay, who became Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, was then the Governor, and the first executive mansion he occupied was the house of James Caldwell, Nos. 58-60 State street, site of the eastern portion of the National Commercial Bank & Trust Co.

The State and City then decided to erect a building in common, and selected a site at State street and Park Place, facing on the Capitol Park. A popular hotel where numerous ceremonial dinners were held, at the southwest corner of Washington avenue and Park Place, named Congress Hall, and four substantial residences, occupied the north half of this Park Place block in line with the Capitol.

A double row of elm trees was planted from the Capitol entrance to the head of State street, which still exist. It was this avenue of ancient trees growing in the spread of level, green sward, that Gov. Frank S. Black endeavored to spare when the work on the front approach and park were nearing completion in 1898.

Hon. Philip S. Van Rensselaer, who was then the Mayor of Albany, laid the cornerstone on April 23, 1806.

This Capitol was first occupied in November, 1808, when the Hon. Daniel D. Tompkins was Governor.

This building at the head of State street was razed in the Summer of 1883, all offices removing to the new edifice, which is the present one.

Sen. James A. Hill presented a resolution April 24, 1863, providing for a building to replace the "Old" Capitol of 1808. It was authorized by Act of May 1, 1865.

The first stone was laid July 7, 1869, by Chancellor John Van Schaick Lansing Pruyn of Albany. The cornerstone was laid June 24, 1871, by the Grand Lodge of Masons.

This building was officially declared the State's Capitol on May 14, 1878. A portion of the north side was formally opened by a public reception of the Legislature, in the Assembly Chamber, January 7, 1879; Hon. Lucius Robinson, Governor.

It was occupied entirely at the opening of the session on January 1, 1884, and was completed in 1898, under Governor Frank S. Black, of Troy; with Isaac G. Perry, Capitol Commissioner.

It was then that the handsome Western Staircase, designed by Henry H. Richardson (architect of the City Hall), and the extensive eastern approach were constructed. After that the tower was erected in the central front, and removed when the enormous weight manifested dangerous signs in the Assembly staircase. The Park in the western rear having been cleared the previous year, was completed in the Spring of 1924.

CITY HALL

Whereas the population has expanded and the wealth of the people has increased,—in size of area Albany has shrunk, and could not avoid doing so.

The Charter of July 22, 1686, defined the City boundaries in a wild manner, for in those days some grants for land were so indefinite or unrestricted regarding the western wilderness as to state that the tracts were to run westward to the Pacific ocean, for about the vastness of the newly occupied territory they comprehended but little.

In this fashion, had the City of Albany retained those boundaries which were defined by the Dongan Charter of 1686, it would to-day be the largest city in the United States, for it was described as "running back into the woods 16 English miles due northwest."

Naturally this created considerable trouble after Schenectady commenced to grow, and the Aldermen of Albany attempted to assess the land for taxes and wanted those of that town to pay them into the Albany treasury.

Even with a city so expansive, the Charter provided for only six Aldermen, whereas today there are nineteen.

In making their payments of taxes, the people of Albany deposited wheat, sometimes a definite number of fowl, and this brought about the creation of large municipal storehouses. Today, ten banks holding money, instead of sacks of corn and kernels of wheat, are many times larger than those wooden warehouses.

The City Hall has evolved from the size of a very modest dwelling, which we would style a log-cabin, to an edifice that is beautiful to behold.

On account of the fear of molestation by the savages, the settlers and their descendants for a century built their plain abodes within cannon-shot of the fort, that is, they commenced near Fort Orange (site of Steamboat Square) and followed the highway which paralleled the river.

This line of houses and small stores ran as far as the stockade at Columbia street, where was the North Gate. Their floral and truck gardens extended from the rears sloping down to the Hudson river.

For these reasons the first City Hall was constructed on Broadway, then known as Market street, and after a while, as the Court was in the City Hall, where was likewise the dreaded gaol, and the Court did more business than the Common Council, it was rechristened Court street.

At the start it was called the Stadt Huys, when the Hon. Pieter Schuyler ruled Albany as the first Mayor, and his residence was conveniently next door. It seems likely that he had a strong word in selecting the site. It was so insignificant a municipal building as to be barely more than the other neighboring shops. In the year 1740, it gave way to a building of more pretentious design on the same site, the northeast corner of Broadway and Hudson avenue, which bore the date October 29, 1740.

An Amendment of April 29, 1743, provided \$2,000 to complete it. Evidently the architect or contractor went wild on his estimate, although a method in that manner is not infrequently found in practice among us of this day.

This building was of brick, generally termed "Holland brick" by historians. It was three stories high, having a doorway in the center of the facade, and a room on each side wide enough to admit two windows. A picture of it shows that it had a depth of two windows,—being a building practically 16 feet deep.

The peaked roof slanted towards street and river. Older historians would state this,—“the gable ends were extremely Dutch, but did not face the street.” A small, octangular cupola, with elaborate weathervane atop, surmounted the ridge. The useful whipping-post stood before it in the street, and the stocks for pinioning the feet of culprits were close at hand.

The City Hall becoming overcrowded, the common interest of law-making was pooled, and the City decided on January 1, 1804, to subscribe \$34,000, towards the building of the “Old” Capitol, at the head of State street.

Considering the statements already made, when Mayor Philip S. Van

Rensselaer laid the cornerstone of the Capitol, on April 23, 1806, at its southeast corner, he was commencing Albany's third City Hall.

The condition of the contract was that the City of Albany should have the use of the first floor of the "Old" Capitol, in the northeast corner, for the Mayor and the Common Council. To secure \$20,000 towards the building subscription, the City conducted a public lottery. We think of this today with the reservation that "the end justified the means," and perhaps agree that if we must make laws, we may overlook a law to have a place to make them in.

The City Hall on Broadway was sold for \$17,000, and vacated on November 1, 1808. Its existence ended when destroyed by fire, April 30, 1836.

Twenty years later, when the co-operative concern did not communize as was contemplated, a new building for a City Hall was commenced on the east side of Eagle street, between Maiden Lane and Pine street. Philip Hooker was its architect.

The cornerstone for this fourth City Hall was laid on August 31, 1829, by Mayor John Townsend with full ceremonial before a great concourse of citizens.

The Mayor, members of the Common Council, the Recorder, Architect, and other prominent men met at the "Old" Capitol and proceeded in procession to the site.

The stone was in readiness at the northeast corner, and in the leaden box with a massive inscription-plate thereon, were placed the City Directory, a copy of the Charter and several maps.

It was a pronouncedly handsome building,—one of the finest ever designed by Philip Hooker, and no superior has been created here since then. It was constructed of marble. A high entrance floor, with three stories above, a portico of pretentious proportions was graced by six Ionic columns, and an enormous gilded dome, reflecting the sunlight for many miles around, were the features.

A full-length statue of Gen. Alexander Hamilton stood in the center of the upper hall, between the Court-room and the Common Council Chamber. On one side of this hall was a bas-relief of Gov. DeWitt Clinton, and on the opposite wall one of Sir Walter Scott.

At this time the population of Albany was 11,954 males; 12,262 females; total 24,216 inhabitants. In order to raise money the Albany City Lottery was engaged by contract with Yates & McIntyre to obtain \$240,795, by the sale of city land.

This building was destroyed by a fire of unknown origin on the exceedingly cold morning of February 10, 1880. Most of the documents and records of the City were saved.

The City Hall of today is the fifth one used by the municipality.

It was erected in 1882, on the site of the previous one, burned February 10, 1880.

The Latitude of Albany as stated upon the tablet of the tower is North, 42°, 39', 06.4". The Longitude is given as West, 73°, 45', 18.5" or 4h, 55m, 01.2s.

Also: "The standard time for the 75th Meridian is 4 minutes, 58.8 seconds slower than Albany Local Time." This bronze marker was established when Hon. John Boyd Thacher was the Mayor of Albany. The tablet gives the date July 22, 1897.

It was designed by the celebrated architect, Henry H. Richardson, who also planned Trinity Church in Boston.

The cornerstone was laid at the southwest corner on October 13, 1881, by the Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

The building was completed May 1, 1883. The cost was \$325,000, of which \$290,000 was raised by City bonds. The population of the City was then (1880) placed at 90,758.

It is constructed of Milford pink granite, with trimmings of Long-meadow brownstone, and is Romanesque in treatment.

The entrance is by three deeply recessed portals. On the second story is a loggia of five arches.

The Mayor's office is located in the first floor of a noble tower, at its southwest corner, which rises to a height of 202 feet, and contains the large fire-alarm bell in the open belfry. The Aldermanic Chamber occupies the front center of the second floor.

This building was erected by a Commission created by Legislative action, consisting of Mayor Michael N. Nolan, Hon. Edward A. Maher, Albertus Becker, Erastus Corning, Charles P. Easton, William Gould, Leonard Gansevoort Hun and Robert C. Pruyn.

Until the new County Building on Eagle street was erected in 1920, and before the offices removed temporarily to the old Albany Savings Bank Building at the northwest corner of State and Chapel streets, the county bore half the maintenance expense.

The first 26 Mayors (1686-1778) were appointed by the Colonial Governors; the next 15 Mayors were elected by the Board of Aldermen (1778-1839), and the last 26 Mayors, since the Hon. Jared Lewis Rathbone was the first, January 1, 1840, have been chosen by the ballot of the people.

In all, there have been 67 Mayors to date.

PARKS

The principal pleasure-ground in the City is Washington Park. From the time of the Dongan Charter, 1686, this land has been public property. It has never been privately owned since the day Indians roamed therein on the arrival of Henry Hudson, in 1609.

It was set apart in 1802, before any residences, other than a farm or two, had been started in that section, for the purpose of a powder-house. The people's minds were still thinking of wars,—and still more wars, so they were preparing.

It is a curious circumstance that the old-time lock of this powder-house may still be seen as one of the permanent exhibits belonging to The Albany Institute on Washington avenue and that it possesses a history of much greater length and interest than is commonly known. It was given to this institution by the heirs of the Hon. Verplanck Colvin, who died aged and respected on May 28, 1920.

It is not unreasonable to believe the account which places the lock in this city 250 years ago, because the narrative leads pretty close and reaches print to-day through reliable sources. It is well to have it on record.

Fort Frederick was built in 1676, in the center of State street, immediately west of Lodge street, by order of Sir Edmond Andros, the Colonial Governor. It was considered that a fort placed upon a hill could render wider service than one in a valley,—such as Fort Orange, upon the river bank.

Fort Frederick was removed in 1784, and about this time the powder-house was constructed. Two large locks of elaborate mechanism were taken from the old fort, and applied to the newer military enterprise. The wooden one sealed the inner door leading to the powder magazine to keep away intruders. The metal one locked the outside door of the powder-house.

We know this to be a fact because the Hon. Andrew J. Colvin, the father of Verplanck Colvin, bought the material of the old powder-house when it was declared out of commission and condemned, to employ the material upon his farm on Western avenue. Hon. Andrew J. Colvin was District-Attorney in 1850, and State Senator in 1860, residing at No. 173 Western avenue.

On October 6, 1806, the land between Madison avenue and State street, from Willett to Knox street, was dedicated as the Middle Public Square, and in 1809, it was rechristened Washington Square. Later on, it was known as the Washington Parade Ground.

Adjoining this tract on the west, in the year 1800, was a large public cemetery known as the City Burial Ground. Many a citizen of prominence found his or her last resting-place out under the great trees, whereon the resident of State street gazes daily, between 1800 and 1842, before the Albany Rural Cemetery was established.

In 1869, prominent citizens who were promoters of the park plan which had been agitated for years, but had met many rebuffs from the Common Council, secured the passage of a State law which established Washington Park, May 5, 1869.

This law provided a Board of Park Commissioners, and when it organized on May 8, 1869, it held these names: John H. Van Antwerp, President (who was the president of the National Savings Bank); Dudley Olcott, Treasurer (who was the president of the Mechanics & Farmers' Bank); William D. Morange (who composed the Bi-Centennial Ode); Arthur Bott, John Bridgeford, William Cassidy (Editor of *The Argus*), George Dawson (proprietor of *The Albany Evening Journal*), John Fair, Hon. Rufus Wheeler Peckham, Jr. (Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court) and Samuel H. Ransom, manufacturer.

The Board accepted the plans of Messrs. Bogart & Cuyler, and the construction was under the supervision of Robert H. Bingham, City Engineer, with William S. Egerton as Assistant.

Mr. Egerton continued as Superintendent of City Parks from then on, until succeeded by Philip Bender, January 21, 1908; followed by Wellington B. Clarke, the present one in office, January 1, 1922.

Work was begun in July, 1870. The leases of a few tenants expired and tombstones were removed to the Albany Rural Cemetery in 1871. By 1873 it was completed westward as far as Robin street and in 1874 to Lake avenue. It was then that the Park Lake was excavated.

In 1880 several blocks of the property at Madison avenue and Knox street were purchased, so as to square up the grounds, and in 1882 the extensive Taylor homestead and land property, at the northeast corner of Madison and Lake avenues, were added in order to establish the tennis court section.

In 1883 the Superintendent's residence and the series of propagation houses were built. Michael Fink, formerly the head caretaker of the grounds at the Van Rensselaer Manor House, located at the north end of Broadway, was chief gardener then.

He was familiar with many families who visited there, whose prominence was undisputed in this city, Boston, New York and Philadelphia. They all knew Fink, and they never failed to ask for him and bestow praise, because he had decorated the table of the Patroon when guests came to his board, and thereby brought them into the "social realm." It was then commonly considered that any person who had not dined in the Van Rensselaer Manor House could not possibly be of importance.

Western avenue, formerly called the Great Western Turnpike, for a distance of 8,200 feet, from Washington Park to the tollgate, was placed under the Board's control, planted with maples, and the paving improvement to a width of 40 feet was inaugurated November 16, 1876.

The admirable bronze statue of Scotland's poet, Robert Burns, the bequest of Miss Mary MacPherson and the work of Charles Calverly,

native Albany sculptor, costing \$25,000, was dedicated on August 30, 1888.

The King Fountain, depicting Moses smiting the rock, a bequest from Henry Lavery King, in memory of his father, Rufus H. King, J. Massey Rhind, sculptor, was dedicated September 29, 1893.

Area of Washington Park is 90 acres.

CAPITOL PARK.

The second park of importance is Capitol Park, because although small it is seen by the greatest number of persons. It is the property of the State.

Its boundaries are Washington avenue, Eagle and State streets, and reaching to the Capitol approach, was surrounded in the old days by a tall iron picket fence, set into a marble foundation.

The lawns were protected then by a low, wooden railing, upon the purposely flat top of which the nursemaids of Albany chatted while airing youthful citizens.

The remains of Col. John Mills, who was killed at Sackett's Harbor, May 29, 1923, were interred here and covered with a marker, but were ceremoniously removed May 30, 1883, to the Albany Rural Cemetery.

Land to the west of the Capitol was acquired about 1921, and finally converted into a park in April, 1924.

ACADEMY PARK.

Academy Park is a beautiful vista before the Albany Boys' Academy. Its well-kept lawns, broad walks and enormous, old elm trees are a delight to behold. The location is fortunately surrounded by such beautiful buildings as the school and two handsome court houses, while the architecture of the old-time residences along Elk street enhances the situation as a whole.

Where the school more than a century old stands, there was a hill, the sand and clay of which were removed to the extent of ten thousand loads, to form the land upon which the Elk street residences have been built, by reclaiming a gully.

In 1882, the Commissioners expended \$4,306 wisely to improve the place. The iron picket fence, with its crumbling marble gates some ten or twelve feet high, was removed, and the little bridges crossing the brook flowing down Lafayette street after a heavy storm, were taken away, because a sewer provided for the flow.

The long-remembered, great Army Relief Bazaar was held there early in 1864 by the Ladies' Army Relief Association, organized in November, 1861, to aid sick or wounded soldiers, and it raised \$81,908.50.

The elaborate ceremony of the dedication of the former Dudley Observatory, founded by the widow of Mayor Charles E. Dudley, the

owner of the "Dudley Row" in South Hawk street, was held therein on August 28, 1856, the Hon. Edward Everett delivering a wonderful oration.

LINCOLN PARK.

In 1886, Lincoln Park was unimproved territory, wild and rugged in every aspect. It was a broad ravine several hundred feet deep on its northern border. Through the length of this gully coursed Beaver creek, its bed of slate-rock. The gulch near Delaware avenue formed a rather attractive scene which was called Buttermilk Falls. Historical narrative has it that two settlers were killed there by savages.

It was known as Delaware Square in 1886; later as Delaware Park, then as Beaver Park, and is now known as Lincoln Park.

The land area was increased by a series of appropriations. An important accession was the purchase of the old homestead and farm or garden of Prof. James Hall, who was long the State Geologist and upon whom a number of foreign governments bestowed high honors.

LINN PARK.

Mrs. Dean Sage, happening to notice how the children were enjoying out-door games in the fields east of the Northern Boulevard north of Third street, and desiring to perpetuate their sport by removing the land from the market, bought a large tract and presented it to the city in 1916, giving it a family name.

BEAVERWYCK PARK.

Beaverwyck Park, extending along the south side of Washington avenue, which in 1900 was known as The Speedway, being reserved entirely for horses from Quail street westward to Manning Boulevard, and covering a level field from Ontario to Partridge streets, is used by the people as a public athletic ground.

BLEECKER PARK.

Bleecker Park is a triangular sward, shaded by old elms in front of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, at Eagle street and Madison avenue.

In 1835, the City appropriated \$1,000, and citizens raised a fund to enclose it with an iron fence. William Fleming presented to this park the first public fountain ever erected in this City, which was dedicated in July, 1863.

CLINTON SQUARE.

Although small in size, Clinton Square, at No. Pearl street and Clinton avenue, makes the location attractive and is a public convenience. It was named in memory of Gov. DeWitt Clinton, who died in his resi-

dence at the southeast corner of No. Pearl and Steuben streets, on February 11, 1828.

It was reconstructed about 1921, according to plans drawn by Arnold J. Brunner, landscape architect.

TOWNSEND PARK.

Townsend Park, at the triangular intersection of Central and Washington avenues, was named for Mayor John Townsend. It was first set apart from traffic by the erection of a fence in 1833.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARK.

St. Joseph's Park, between that church and Ten Broeck street, is very attractive although small, and is a pleasure to the residential neighborhood.

OTHER PARKS.

Dana Park — Is south of the corner of Lark street and Madison avenue, bordered by Delaware avenue along the east. It holds a rugged fountain, consisting of a huge boulder suitably carved in tribute to America's great and beloved naturalist.

Dudley Park — Consists of the grounds formerly surrounding the old Dudley Observatory.

Riverside Park — Is located along the river and Broadway, bounded by Herkimer and Westerlo streets.

Recreation Pier Park — Is at the foot of State street, and runs parallel to the river, separated by water from the city wharf. It holds the attractive modern clubhouse of the Albany Yacht Club, and the vessels are docked within the quay.

Colonie Park — Is located along the north side of Pleasant street, from Broadway to No. Pearl street.

Observatory Park — Is located near Lake and New Scotland avenues.

Swinburne Park — Is located at Clinton avenue, Second street and Manning Boulevard. It was named in memory of Hon. John Swinburne, M.D., Mayor of Albany, 1882-84.

Van Rensselaer Park — Is located along Hall Place, Ten Broeck and Second streets.

Hudson Park — Is a small plat at Hudson avenue, Liberty and Union streets.

Tivoli Lakes Park — Is bounded by Manning Boulevard, Quail and Judson streets, and land of the N. Y. Central Railroad.

EDUCATION

The advancement of the City can be shown in no better way than by considering the schools of to-day in connection with the conditions of education in the past.

Then, in the year 1650, the church congregation of Fort Orange requested Domine Wilhelmus Grasmeer, who was occupying the pulpit of the Dutch Church in the summer absence of Domine Johannes Megapolensis, to take some action in order that the children of the little settlement might obtain an education.

When the funds had been collected, a schoolhouse was constructed, which was opened on September 9, 1650, with Adriaen Jansen the first teacher. He received a gift of twenty dollars for his successful enterprise.

Fort Orange having been taken over by the English September 24, 1664, Governor Richard Nicolls visited the place in August, 1665, and gave instructions to the commander at Fort Orange, which included the order that the children must learn to speak and read the English language. Thereupon, he licensed John Shutte to be the only English schoolmaster.

The next step was taken on April 8, 1721, when the Common Council resolved that it be obligated to provide a "fitt" schoolhouse, and accepting the offer of Johannes Glansdorf to settle here, contracted to give him "free house and rent for the term of seven years next ensuing for keeping a good and commendable school as becomes a diligent Schoolmaster."

Upon the call of the Common Council, George Merchant, of Philadelphia, accepted a call to be the principal of a Free Academy for higher education, and he opened it November 16, 1779, in the residence erected in 1725, by the Hon. Johannes Beeckman.

This building was on the west side of North Pearl street, between State street and Maiden lane, and the site is occupied by the Albany Savings Bank. It was commonly known as the old Vanderheyden Palace, because Washington Irving visited there, and in his story, "Bracebridge Hall," he made it the home of "Anthony Vanderheyden." In 1778 Jacob Vanderheyden made it his residence.

The citizens took notice of the successful system founded by Joseph Lancaster of England, and in 1812 decided to adopt the idea of a Lancastrian School, whereupon they erected the building upon the west side of Eagle street (between Lancaster and Jay streets), which was continued until 1834, and was taken over in 1838 by the Albany Medical College.

The Public School system had its start when the Legislature passed an act in April, 1830, providing for a Board of School Inspectors and a Board of Commissioners, with power to appoint three trustees for

each school district. The first Public School was erected on State street in 1832 and was named School No. 2.

By an act of the Legislature passed April 7, 1866, there was created a Board of Public Instruction in Albany, and free schools were established.

The Albany High School had its origin when the Board submitted a bill to the Legislature on December 17, 1866, establishing a Free Academy.

A building formerly used by the Mohawk & Hudson railroad on the north side of State street, near Eagle, the site of the present Van Vechten Hall, was secured and the school opened there with 141 pupils, in September, 1868.

Prof. John Edwin Bradley was the first principal. He was born at Lee, Mass., August 8, 1839, and died at his home in Randolph, Mass., October 7, 1912.

Among the teachers then employed were Charles W. Cole (born March 9, 1840; died Aug. 27, 1912), who was Superintendent of Schools from 1878 until his death; Samuel B. Howe and Miss Mary Morgan, who wrote the school song, "Chorus Finale."

Its own first building was erected on the east side of Eagle street, from Columbia to Steuben street, and eastward half the block to Lodge street.

It was three stories high, with a large auditorium on the dormer floor. Ogden & Wright were the architects and its style was described as "domestic Gothic." Patrick McCarthy & Son were the builders.

This building was commenced in 1874, when Addison A. Keyes was President of the Board of Public Instruction and John O. Cole was Superintendent and Secretary.

The cornerstone was laid on June 4, 1875, and the documents placed therein were signed by Prof. John E. Bradley as Principal. The school was opened on May 4, 1876.

The Board resolved on March 30, 1909, to erect a new school. Plans were approved by the Board on March 30, 1911, for the new building on Western and Lake avenues. This one was first occupied in September, 1913. Prof. Frank Amner Gallup was then the Principal and the Principal at present is Dr. Harry E. Pratt. The Superintendent of Schools is Dr. C. Edward Jones and the President of the Board is William S. Dyer.

The City conducts one High School, 25 Elementary Schools and 3 annexes.

The number of pupils enrolled in March, 1924, were 12,496, to which may be added 2,148 in the Evening Schools and 1,216 in the Part-Time Schools, making a total of 15,860 scholars receiving instruction from the city.

The Catholic Schools of Albany would add to this 143 in the Collegiate, 730 in the Academic and 5,588 in the Elementary, a total of 6,461.

The total of these two classes of schools would make an attendance of 22,321 students in Albany, without considering a number of other scholastic institutions.

THE ALBANY ACADEMY

The Albany Academy had its commencement when a number of influential citizens, headed by Mayor Philip S. VanRensselaer, appealed to the Board of Regents in February, 1813, for permission to operate a school, and this was granted on March 4, 1813, when the Hon. Daniel D. Tompkins, Chancellor, signed the document.

It started on September 11, 1815, in a small, wooden building owned by Kiliaen VanRensselaer, at the southeast corner of State and Lodge streets. Dr. Benjamin Allen was the first Principal, followed in 1817 by Dr. Theodoric Romeyn Beck, M.D., LL.D.

The undertaking met with such fair success that it was soon decided to erect a suitable building; but the difficulty of collecting funds was almost insurmountable.

Ground was obtained at Park place and Elk street, and Philip Hooker was selected to be the architect. So well did he plan that his work has been admired by the ablest judges ever since, who cite it as one of the best examples of early American types.

The hill was cleared by the removal of ten thousand loads of clay, which were dumped into the gully at the north to form foundations for residences on Elk street. The City owned the old jail property, where Van Vechten Hall stands, which it contributed, and it was sold for \$16,900.

The cornerstone was laid on July 29, 1815. The material was Nyack freestone. The Chapel, on the second floor, is most attractive. It has beautiful proportions, being 34 feet deep, and extending 73 ft., 8 in., along the eastern front of the building. The high walls are flanked by Corinthian pilasters. A large cupola adorns the whole, upon which for a weathervane is the metal fish which graced the spire of the Second Presbyterian Church of 1813, until removed in 1922. The cost of the structure was \$91,802.45. There were then only 10,000 inhabitants, living in 1,450 houses, and the grand total of municipal expenses was only \$54,000.

Military instruction was inaugurated at the time of the Civil War, under Dr. David Murray, Principal, when Charles Emory Smith, who was later a member of the President's Cabinet as Postmaster-General, was made Major of a Battalion; but the only uniform was a military cap, and it had no equipments.

When Dr. Merrill Edwards Gates became Principal in 1870, Gen. John Finley Rathbone, who had been State Adjutant-General, pressed the matter so seriously that a real Battalion was constituted, and Rufus King Townsend was the first Major.

The school celebrated its 75th Anniversary in a formal manner at

the First Congregational Church, on Eagle street, October 25, 1888, when Dr. Thomas Hun was President of the Board, and Dr. Henry Pitt Warren was Principal.

The Centennial was celebrated in Washington Park and in the Academy, on May 24, 1913. Dr. Henry Hun was President of the Board, and Dr. Henry P. Warren was Principal.

Dr. Islay F. McCormick is the Head Master at the present time, and Frederick Townsend is the President of the Board, having been chosen on April 30, 1924, to succeed Dr. Henry Hun, who died March 14, 1924.

It is credit due by Albanians to Dr. Hun to mention that he advanced the school in a wonderful degree by the persistent effort of his high idealism, until it could no longer accept applications, and it attained the highest statistical record among the schools of the United States.

The enrollment for the current year was 250 students in the Academic Department and 117 in the Preparatory, making a total of 367 students. There are 15 teachers in the Academic, and five in the Preparatory, making a total of 20 teachers. The Major of the Cadet Battalion is Theodore A. Wendell, and the Professor of Military Science and Tactics is Major Ernest Livingston Miller, U. S. Cavalry Reserve Corps.

ALBANY ACADEMY FOR GIRLS.

The Albany Academy for Girls had its start on May 21, 1814, when through the efforts of Ebenezer Foote, a prominent lawyer of his time, urged by his wife, brought into being the first school in America for the higher education of girls.

It was opened in a one-story building on the west side of Montgomery street, north of Steuben street, on the site occupied by the New York Central Railroad for its passenger station.

It was incorporated on February 16, 1821, as the Albany Female Academy, and in 1906, this name was changed to Albany Academy for Girls.

Horace Goodrich was the first Principal, and the Hon. James Kent, of legal fame and Chancellor, the first President of the Board.

In 1834, the school moved into its new and stately edifice on the west side of No. Pearl street (between Maiden Lane and Steuben street), designed by Jonathan Lyman, a feature of the imposing façade being massive columns of the Ionic order. It became later the store of the Wm. E. Drislane Co.

In 1893, it removed to No. 155 Washington avenue, which consisted of the former large residence of Amos P. Palmer, late Cashier of the Albany City Bank, to which was added the large building for classrooms, through the energetic efforts of George Douglas Miller.

The President of the Board is Judge Alden Chester, and Miss Edna F. Lake is the Principal. There are 200 students and 19 teachers in 1924.

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE FOR TEACHERS.

Ranking oldest of its class in the State and among the earliest in the United States, the New York State Normal College was established by Legislative Act on May 7, 1844, with 29 pupils recorded when it opened on December 18, 1844.

It has developed into the New York State College for Teachers, with a total of 1,025 students during the Winter of 1924, and an additional one thousand attending the Summer session.

The originators of this advanced school for the training of teachers were Alonzo Potter, Gideon Hawley, Francis Dwight and Samuel Young, — all men of prominence in large concerns of public welfare.

The first Principal was David B. Page, and the present one is Dr. Abram B. Brubacher, who succeeded the Principal never to be forgotten, Dr. William J. Milne, who held office many years, greatly advanced the institution, and after whom was named the Milne High School.

It occupied first the old railroad depot building of the Mohawk & Hudson railroad, running from Albany to Schenectady, the pioneer passenger service in the world. The site is now occupied by Van Vechten Hall, No. 119 State street, about 50 feet to the east of Eagle street.

Its own new building was opened at the northwest corner of Lodge and Howard streets, an annex of Geological Hall, July 31, 1849, costing \$25,000. This building was sold to the Christian Brothers' Academy, which now occupies it.

Known as the State Normal College at the time, it opened in its new building, designed by Edward Ogden & Son, on the east side of Willett street, between Hudson and Madison avenues, in September, 1885. It was totally destroyed by fire on the night of January 8, 1906.

The handsome buildings of Colonial design on the north side of Western avenue, occupying the site of the old Albany Orphan Asylum, were first used in September, 1909.

The title was changed from "School" to the New York State Normal College, March 13, 1890, and to the New York State College for Teachers, on December 14, 1905.

SAINT AGNES SCHOOL.

The Rt. Rev. William Croswell Doane, D.D., D.C.L., founded St. Agnes School in a modest manner in 1870. Since then it has grown beyond its limitations and its graduates are spread all over the country.

It first occupied a large residence standing at the north end of Eagle street, known as Columbia place, and Miss Ellen Wright Boyd was the first Principal. This was in October, 1870.

By an Act of Legislature passed March 14, 1871 (Chapter 101, Laws of 1871), The Corning Foundation for Christian Work in the Diocese of Albany was incorporated "for the establishment, maintenance and

management in the City of Albany of a School or Schools and other educational, religious and charitable works and institutions," and this was the first work undertaken.

A site was selected on the north side of Elk, between Hawk and Swan streets, and ground was broken on May 8, 1871. The cornerstone was laid on June 19, 1871, and it was formally opened on All Hallowe'en in 1872. The cost was about \$250,000.

The President of the Board is the Rt. Rev. Richard Henry Nelson, and Miss Matilda Gray is the Principal.

There are 27 teachers, including specialists, and 225 students.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

A very large and important division of the educational advantages of Albany is the Catholic schools. The first of these was named St. Mary's, which was opened in 1829; but no other was started for at least a dozen years, when followed St. John's and Holy Cross schools. The increase has been steady since then, and most creditable.

Two of the institutions, the Convent of the Sacred Heart, at Kenwood, and St. Rose's College, provide regular college courses. There are four parish academies — the Cathedral, St. Joseph's, St. Ann's and the Vincentian. The latter is one of the finest modern school buildings in Albany.

There are two tuitionary academies — the Christian Brothers', on Lodge street, and the Holy Names, on Madison avenue.

The parish schools number fourteen, and are named: St. Mary's, St. John's, Holy Cross, Cathedral, St. Joseph's, Our Lady of Angels, Our Lady Help of Christians, St. Patrick's, St. Ann's, St. Anthony's, St. Casimir's, the Blessed Sacrament and the Vincentian Institute.

The three institutional schools are St. Vincent's Male and Female Orphan Asylums, and St. Ann's School of Industry. An Infant Home School provides kindergarten instruction.

The attendance is listed as follows: Collegiate, 143; Academic, 730; Elementary, 5,588; total, 6,461.

The President of the Board is the Rt. Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons.

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS.

Besides the institutions which have been mentioned, there are a number of admirable professional schools and colleges, so one may say with just confidence that there is every opportunity for a person to make a selection and be satisfied.

Such a list would include the following institutions:

Albany Business College, No. 83 No. Pearl street; founded in 1857; John R. Carnell, Manager; Benton S. Hoit, Principal.

Albany College of Pharmacy, No. 43 Eagle street; created by Union University on June 21, 1881; incorporated August 27, 1881. Charles Gibson, President; William Mansfield, A.M., Phar.D., Dean.

Albany Law School, Nos. 239-245 State street; incorporated April 17, 1851. Hon. William P. Rudd, President; J. Newton Fiero, Dean.

Albany Medical College, Eagle street; organized in 1838; incorporated in 1839. Edmund Niles Huyck, President; Thomas Ordway, M.D., Dean.

Bender Laboratory, So. Lake avenue; built and endowed in 1896, by Matthew Bender, for bacterial research. Harry H. Bender, President; Ellis Kellert, Director.

Albany Hospital Training School for Nurses, New Scotland avenue; established in 1898; registered by the Regents, 1905. Charles Gibson, President; Mary Reid Donald, Superintendent.

Brady Maternity Hospital and Infant Home, training class, No. Main avenue; founded in 1915 by the late Anthony N. Brady. Rt. Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons, President; Sister Louise, Superintendent.

Dudley Observatory, So. Lake avenue; its first observatory, in the northern part of the city, dedicated August 28, 1856; its second one dedicated November 4, 1893. William H. Sage, President; Benjamin Boss, Director.

Memorial Hospital, training class, No. 161 No. Pearl street; instituted November 26, 1867; Edgar M. Griffiths, President; Sarah B. Palmer, R.N., Superintendent.

New York State Library School, the first of the kind established solely for professional training of librarians, opened on January 5, 1887, at Columbia University as the Columbia College School of Library Economy; transferred to Albany, and became a division of the State Library, April 1, 1889. James I. Wyer, Director.

St. Peter's Hospital, southeast corner Broadway and No. Ferry street; conducts medical training classes; opened in 1869 by the heirs of Peter Cagger, a prominent philanthropist. Rt. Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons, President; Sister Mary Carmelita, Superintendent.

BANKING

The banks are admirable barometers of the conditions of commerce. We may judge by the deposits whether there is depression or the people enjoying prosperity.

Albany banks have a proud record of prosperity, and all show a soundness that speaks of general satisfaction. There are few in this city today who can recall a failure, unless they recollect Civil War events, and a glance at their physical appearance is convincing that of all institutions in this city the banks are in the forefront. The visitor coming to Albany makes mental note of this immediately, and the first impression is favorable.

On the one hand, it is the sagacity, alertness, integrity and sensible qualities of our banking officials in following a careful and conservative policy, yet eagerly alert for expansion of business that may afford explanation; but also one must take into account somewhat similar qualities of the men who have made the money that all this represents.

Albany is in the forefront of the pioneers in banking of America, for the second bank ever created in the entire State was chartered here, and in the whole United States it was the fourth.

Back in 1792, it became apparent that the people required a financial institution to facilitate the commerce of its active citizens, and yet there was an element which offered opposition to such an enterprise.

In order to crystalize opinion, the leaders of commerce in this city gathered in the old Lewis Tavern at the southeast corner of Pearl and State streets, on February 3, 1792, to discuss and decide the matter.

The Bank of New York was the only one in operation in the State, and its stock was 50 per cent. above par. This was an argument for the advocates, who won, and at a subsequent meeting outlines of the plan were presented.

The name selected for the original institution was the Albany Bank. The capital was fixed at \$75,000, divided into 500 shares of \$150 each, and \$15 was to be paid down, the remainder to be called for on installments.

On February 17, 1792, the books were opened for subscriptions by a committee consisting of Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Jacob Vander Heyden and Barent Bleecker. The entire lot of stock was sold inside of three hours, and before night there were offers at an advance of 10 per cent.

Application was made to the Legislature for a Charter, where there was much opposition, and excitement thus created caused constant fluctuation in the value of the stock. This was the start in the history of absorbing interest in stock speculation, which is now an ordinary but widespread subject of concern to many citizens.

The law was passed. The first election to choose a Board of Directors was held on June 12, 1792, in Lewis' City Tavern, and these sound business men of Albany constituted the Board: Stephen Van Rensselaer, Abraham Ten Broeck, Henry Cuyler, John Maley, Abraham Van Vechten, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Cornelius Glen, Jacob Vander Heyden, Goldsboro Banyar, James Caldwell, John Stevenson, Daniel Hale and Elkanah Watson.

Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck was chosen President, and the bank was opened for deposits on July 16, 1792. Discounting commenced the next day, and the interest rate was fixed at 6 per cent. The capital was \$260,000. Two years later, February, 1794, the capital was increased to \$540,000, in 135 shares of \$400 each.

The Albany Bank was located first in an old Dutch building on No. Pearl street, third one north of State street, on the west side; but in February, 1794, it erected its own home on the west side of Broadway, the fifth lot north of State street, next north of where the Merchants' Bank stood in 1900.

It removed in 1810, to a new building erected by the bank at the northwest corner of Broadway and State street, known a dozen years later as The Albany Museum Building, which it occupied until it was torn down when State street was widened in 1832. It then went to No. 42 State street. After that, it built the large building occupied later on by the Merchants' Bank, No. 458 Broadway, where it remained until the failure, May 11, 1861, due to panics of the Civil War.

The name of Elkanah Watson stands out prominently as one of the most energetic and efficient advocates of this first bank in Albany. Its early success is due to his sound business judgment, his experience and integrity of character.

At one time in this bank's history it held a national reputation and made the record of having more specie in proportion to its capital than any bank in the entire country.

The lengthy terms of its officers were remarkable, and the old saying, "as good as the Bank of Albany," was a common phrase of commendation when a person spoke of credit.

The Presidents of the Albany Bank, with the dates of taking office, follow: Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck, 1792; Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, 1798; Hon. Philip S. Van Rensselaer, 1806; Dudley Walsh, 1810; John Van Schick, 1814; Barent Bleecker, 1820, and Jacob H. Ten Eyck, 1840-1861.

During the seventy years of this bank's existence there were only four Cashiers: Garret W. Van Schaick, 1792; John Van Zandt, 1815; Jellis Winne, Jr., 1832; Edward E. Kendrick, 1849-1861.

A history of Albany's banking institutions would cover 15 banks of deposit, 8 banks for savings, and 2 trust companies; making a total of 25 financial organizations operated in this city since the first one, in 1792.

NEW YORK STATE NATIONAL BANK

This is the oldest bank in Albany, and the present handsome building is the oldest one in America built for and continuously used for banking purposes. This is an endorsement which no words of praise would in the least enhance.

It received its Charter early in 1803, and owes its origin largely to the special efforts of Elkanah Watson, a man of more than a century ago possessing progressive ideas.

At the first meeting of the Board, held on March 25, 1803, John Tayler was elected President. It had a capital of \$460,000, when it commenced business on September 7, 1803. John W. Yates was appointed the first Cashier.

The building was located at Nos. 69-71 State street, and Philip Hooker, a famous architect of his day, has the credit for the admirable design. So excellent was his work that no one has thought of replacing it by a newer edifice. It is of brick, and has always had two entrances to the front, as it has today, although the front steps have been worn away several times by the constant travel of depositors.

It was first occupied on May 10, 1804.

Originally the building was one of two stories, the second being occupied by the Cashier. In 1902, all of this structure was demolished except the facade, and replaced by a fire-proof structure.

The banking-room has a ceiling height of forty-two feet. Behind this was erected a six-story structure for the clerical force.

In the first story of this was constructed a board-room of great beauty created in the center rear, designed by Marcus T. Reynolds, architect. The latter room is so artistically beautiful that it is worthy of a visit by strangers. A large marble fireplace which is built in the north wall is ornamented by the bust figure of Henry II., the masterpiece of a foreign sculptor, brought here from the Palace of the Borghese in Rome.

In 1918, the adjoining property, on the corner of State and James streets, was purchased and on this was erected a three-story and basement fire-proof building. The first story is used for the officers' quarters and is a handsome room wainscoted from floor to ceiling in paneled marble and decorated in the Adam style.

It is recorded that its incorporation met with considerable opposition in the Legislature, due to the influence of another local bank which feared the loss of business; but is out of existence now. The jealousy went so far as to have the new bank refused the paper upon which to issue its notes.

By the act of incorporation, the State had the right to subscribe for 3,000 shares in this bank, and it was provided that the State Comptroller should be a director.

John Tayler continued to be its first President, from the start on March 25, 1803, until his death, in 1829, and he was succeeded May 13,

1829, by the Hon. Francis Bloodgood, the Mayor. When the latter died, March 5, 1840, there was no one of the original board left living.

The next President was Rufus H. King, elected March 18, 1840, who served until he died in 1867. Gen. Franklin Townsend was his successor, October 28, 1867; until followed by J. Howard King, July 21, 1879, who died July 18, 1900. Ledyard Cogswell, Sr., was elected on September 27, 1900, and when he was made the Chairman of the Board on January 10, 1922, Ledyard Cogswell, Jr., became President.

Alonzo P. Adams is Vice-President; J. Milton Russum, Cashier; Edward M. Boice and William Rutger Bleecker, Assistant Cashiers.

The Capital is \$1,250,000; surplus, \$1,250,000, and the undivided profits \$550,000.

MECHANICS AND FARMERS' BANK

The third bank established in Albany and now the second oldest here was the Mechanics and Farmers' National Bank, which was incorporated on March 4, 1811.

As its original intention was to assist the mechanics and farmers of Albany county, its first charter provided that men of that calling only could be chosen for officers of the board; but in a few years the charter was amended to avoid all distinction.

The capital was \$442,000 at the start, divided into shares of \$17 each.

It was opened for business on July 29, 1811, in a building on the north side of State street, east of Broadway, on the site of the southern portion of the present Government Building, or Post Office, and remained there until it entered its own building on the east side of Broadway, known then as No. 6 Court street, the site of the northern portion of the Government Building. It was pretentious for its day, constructed of marble and capped by a dome to light the interior.

The present building, at the northeast corner of State and James streets, was the site of the old Dutch house in which the celebrated Anneke Jans resided in her old age and died in 1663. She was famed from one end of this country to the other as the owner of the enormous farm in New York city, now in possession of Trinity Church, and very valuable.

This building was first used June 19, 1875. It was designed by Russell Sturgis, celebrated Boston and New York architect, and is of French Renaissance. On May 15, 1924, it was occupied again after being remodeled within.

The first President was Solomon Southwick, inducted into office on March 4, 1811. Gorham A. Worth, a member of a distinguished family residing in Hudson, N. Y., and the well-known author of "Random Recollections of Albany," was made Cashier.

Isaac Hutton succeeded Southwick on May 5, 1813, and he was followed by Benjamin Knowler, June 3, 1817, who resigned in 1834, in

favor of the Hon. Charles E. Dudley, Mayor, who was chosen on February 3, 1834 to act temporarily, until Ezra Ames was elected, June 3, 1834.

Thomas Worth Olcott became President on June 7, 1836, and was the first of that family name to control this bank. He had been a clerk for several years, then Cashier, and finally President, so that his connection with the bank covered in all 69 years up to his death.

He was born in Hudson, N. Y., on May 22, 1795, where he was employed in a bank for two years before coming to Albany, hence a record of seventy-one years of banking, and he died March 23, 1880, in his home, No. 19 Ten Broeck street, formerly the residence built in 1798 by Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck. He declined the offer President Lincoln made to him in 1863, to be Controller of the Currency.

Dudley Olcott, son of Thomas W. Olcott, succeeded his father on April 20, 1880, as an equally able administrator, and he died in the family homestead, December 28, 1919. Robert Olcott, his nephew, became the bank's President in January, 1920. Thus it is reckoned that since the bank was opened, July 29, 1811, with T. W. Olcott a clerk therein, one of the family has always been actively connected with its affairs.

Clarence W. Stevens is the Cashier, having succeeded George G. Davidson, who had held the office for a quarter century, and Ira F. Jagger is Assistant Cashier.

Capital, \$250,000; Surplus, \$1,150,000; Undivided Profits, \$1,150,000.

NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK & TRUST COMPANY

Among the few century-old financial institutions of the State is the National Commercial Bank and Trust Company, one of the three oldest banks in Albany. Its successful career and its soundness of character are comparable with its years. Its officers, the Board, the building, personnel and modern methods speak the same sentiment.

A group of a few men of sound standing in the community, Messrs. Joseph Alexander, George W. Stanton, Alexander Davidson and David E. Gregory, met on November 19, 1823, to consider the incorporation of a new bank in Albany. The measure was reported favorably by the Assembly on January 21, 1824; but was defeated by the Senate, and as a consequence the charter was not issued until April 12, 1825.

The capital stock was fixed at \$300,000, divided into shares of \$20 each. The membership of the first board included Messrs. William Walker, Joshua Tuffs, George W. Stanton, Lewis Benedict, William Cook, David E. Gregory, Seth Hastings, Ira Jenkins, Joseph Alexander, Robert Gilchrist, Richard Marvin, John Townsend and Asa H. Center.

The stock books were opened in May 1825, for the sale of \$300,000, and in three days the amount subscribed was found to be \$1,500,000.

As the result of too much success, an indignation meeting was held in the Capitol on June 10th, at which time Col. John Stilwell presided; but it resulted in no action, the principal idea being that half of the amount might be applied as the foundation of another bank.

A meeting was held in Knickerbocker Hall on May 23, 1826, for organization, when Joseph Alexander was chosen the President, and at a meeting on July 13th, Henry Bartow was appointed Cashier.

Business began on September 5, 1826, with a capital of \$300,000, which was increased to \$500,000, on February 1, 1855, and in 1906, to \$2,500,000, capital and surplus.

It first occupied the building at Nos. 38-40 State street (now the Hampton Hotel) where it remained until it secured property at Nos. 58-60 State street, its present location.

This beautiful and substantial building of classical design was planned by Messrs. York & Sawyer, and was opened on May 2, 1904. In 1922, it was enlarged to meet increasing demands, and became greatly improved by extensive alterations, particularly the mammoth deposit vaults in the basement, and the Trust Department on the main floor.

In December, 1901, the National Commercial Bank acquired the assets, property and stock of the Merchants' National Bank, and later in the same month acquired those of the Albany City National Bank, located at No. 47 State street.

In 1920, another important transaction took place. The Union Trust Company of Albany, was incorporated February 26, 1902, and was occupying the building formerly used by the Albany City National Bank, where it opened at No. 47 State street, March 10, 1902, with Grange Sard (d. Albany, May 12, 1924) its President. It acquired in 1902 the assets of the Park Bank (established in 1839, at No. 7 Central ave.), which had erected a new building at the southeast corner of Washington avenue and Lark street, in 1904. The Union Trust Co. was converted into a national bank March 1, 1920, known as the Union National Bank & Trust Co., and was consolidated with the National Commercial Bank, May 1, 1920. Thereupon, Thomas I. Van Antwerp was placed at the head of the Trust Department and MacNaughton Miller of the Park Branch.

Presidents: Joseph Alexander, May 23, 1826; John Townsend, June 7, 1832; John L. Schoolcraft, August 31, 1854; Ezra P. Prentice, June 13, 1860; Robert Hewson Pruyn, November 24, 1875; Daniel Manning, March 4, 1882; Robert C. Pruyn, May 23, 1885.

Vice-Presidents at this time are: Frederick W. Kelley, Thomas I. Van Antwerp, Jacob H. Herzog, William L. Gillespie, MacNaughton Miller. Cashier, Herbert J. Kneip.

Capital, \$1,250,000; Surplus, \$2,000,000; Undivided Profits, \$1,500,000.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

A progressive institution outgrowing the limits of its new building erected only a few years ago in a most central location, is descriptive of the First National Bank, which is considered a younger bank, although started sixty years ago.

Organization was discussed at a meeting held in November, 1863. Plans were outlined and "Articles of Association" executed on January 12, 1864. It received its Charter on January 26, 1864.

On February 25, 1864, it commenced business at Nos. 35-37 State street. It was the first local bank organized under the National banking act, and became a Government financial agent to receive and disburse Federal funds.

Its first President was Thomas Schuyler, and its first Cashier was Adam Van Allen. Its Presidents have been: Thomas Schuyler, January 26, 1864; Samuel Schuyler, October 16, 1866; Matthew H. Read, January 21, 1868; Adam Van Allen, October 1, 1883; Garret A. Van Allen, September 8, 1884; Frederick A. Mead, May 1, 1905; John A. Becker, September 25, 1912. Hugh A. Arnold is Cashier.

It has been located at Nos. 35-37 State street from the start until to-day. The new building was constructed on the same site in 1908, by Marcus T. Reynolds, Architect. In 1923, the bank acquired the property at Nos. 59-61 State street, and Nos. 5, 7 and 9 James street, with a frontage of 64 feet on the latter street, intending to erect a new building.

When commencing business in 1864, the Capital was \$200,000, in 2,000 shares. In 1884 its Capital was \$200,000; Surplus, \$207,000; with Garret A. Van Allen its President, and Ledyard Cogswell, Cashier. In 1924, its Capital is \$600,000; Surplus, \$400,000; Undivided Profits, \$550,000.

CENTRAL BANK

Mainly as a matter of convenience, which counts for much in these days, a number of the principal business men of Albany located west of Lark street, met to organize a bank, and the name selected was the Central Bank of Albany.

They chose the northwest corner of Central avenue and Quail street as a central location, on the busiest business thoroughfare of the West End, situated on two distinct surface car lines and upon the direct route to Schenectady and Saratoga.

It was decided to accept interest accounts as well as the regular checking accounts, and business was opened under the supervision of the State Banking Department on July 1, 1921. What are termed "Thrift Accounts" are solicited upon which interest is paid.

The first board of directors comprised: Eli D. Burke, George V. Cameron, George Curran, William J. Dawson, John A. Fisher, Edmund

F. Glavin, John B. Hauf, John F. Heidenreich, Claude J. Holding, Edwin F. Hunting, Otto Jantz, Joseph Maas, Charles A. Porth, Nathan Rosenzweig, Paul Simon, George Wend and John Zwack.

The officers are: President, John B. Hauf; Vice-President, William J. Dawson; 2nd Vice-President, James E. Glavin; Cashier, Clifford J. Beckett.

The Capital is \$100,000; Surplus, \$60,023.93; Deposits, \$1,868,883.47.

ALBANY SAVINGS BANK

The first bank for the savings of the people to be started in this city was the Albany Savings Bank. It has a history that is interwoven with the individual interests of the citizens covering a complete century.

Its officers have invariably been men of the highest type of intellect and integrity, and although it appears to hold a position of aristocracy among all the banks, there are tens of thousands of citizens who confide in it their humble, hard-earned hoardings.

Back in the year 1820, to the Legislature came General Stephen Van Rensselaer, son of the Patroon and a hero in the War of 1812; Charles R. Webster, one of Albany's earliest publishers; John Townsend, Mayor of the city; Joseph Alexander, allied as President with the Commercial Bank, and William James, with a petition to be made a corporate body that they might receive on deposit such small sums of money as tradesmen and mechanics might bring there for safety; loan their money to promote public enterprises, and receive an income in the form of interest.

It was a novelty in Albany, but the Legislature passed an incorporating act on March 25, 1820, and the officers designated were: President, Stephen Van Rensselaer; 1st Vice-President, William James; 2nd Vice-President, Joseph Alexander; 3rd Vice-President, John Townsend, and a Board of Managers,—Messrs. Charles R. Webster, Jesse Buel, Thomas Russell, Volckert P. Douw, William Durant, Douw Fonda, Simeon DeWitt, Peter Boyd, John Spencer, John L. Winne, William McHarg, Matthew Gill, Harmanus Bleecker and Sylvanus P. Jermain.

These men met in the Chamber of Commerce rooms on May 16, 1820, when Sylvanus P. Jermain was appointed Secretary for the meeting, and John W. Yates its Treasurer.

The first deposit was made on June 10, 1820, at the New York State National Bank, which had agreed to hold the deposits for safety. In 1828, the Commercial Bank received the contract.

In the first year the total of deposits reached only \$14,333, representing 297 depositors, or an average of \$48.25.

The first building of its own was the substantial granite edifice now standing at the northwest corner of State and Chapel streets, later occupied as the Albany County Building, which it first occupied on May 11, 1875, when J. Howard King was President.

It was only natural that the savings bank having the earliest start should outgrow requirements, and a building committee was named with Wm. Bayard Van Rensselaer its chairman. The design of Henry Ives Cobb was selected.

The site secured was at the southwest corner of No. Pearl street and Maiden Lane, the southern portion of which had once been the place where Johannes Beeckman erected the "VanderHeyden Palace" in 1725, while on the corner, at the north end, was the Odd Fellows' Temple. This building was first occupied April 25, 1899, when J. Howard King was President.

The Presidents have been as follows: Stephen Van Rensselaer, March 25, 1820; Hon. John Townsend, January 7, 1840; Gerrit Yates Lansing, September 2, 1854; Rufus H. King, February 21, 1863; Harmon Pumpelly, October 19, 1867; Henry H. Martin, May 17, 1882; J. Howard King, April 10, 1886; William Bayard Van Rensselaer, August 15, 1900; Marcus T. Hun, November 16, 1909; Frederick Townsend, April 20, 1920.

Treasurers: John W. Yates, 1820; James Taylor, 1844; Visscher Ten Eyck, 1861; James Martin, 1869; Henry H. Martin, 1874; Theodore Townsend, 1882 (died Aug. 3, 1905); Benjamin W. Johnson, August 16, 1905; Henry D. Rodgers, July 1, 1913.

In 1924, the Deposits are \$43,503,024.52; Surplus (market value) \$4,418,187.38; Total footing, \$47,921,211.90. Number of accounts, 53,658.

CITY SAVINGS BANK OF ALBANY

Among the savings banks of the city on record as one of the oldest, regarded as possibly the most progressive, and expanding to-day by entering its handsome new edifice on May 1, 1924, is the City Savings Bank of Albany.

It was incorporated on March 29, 1850, by a group of representative citizens.

A list of the members of the first Board of Trustees bears the names of Hon. Erastus Corning, Sr., Mayor of the City, 1834-1837; Ellis Baker, Christopher W. Bender, William Boardman, James Goold, William Humphrey, James Kidd, John Knower, James MacNaughton, John McKnight, James Maher, Henry H. Martin, Thomas Noonan, John T. Norton, John V. L. Pruyn, Lansing Pruyn, Samuel Pruyn, Watts Sherman, John Taylor and John G. White.

The Trustees elected the Hon. Erastus Corning the bank's first President, and Watts Sherman was chosen the first Treasurer.

The bank began business in the building erected in 1873, at No. 47 State street, handsome in its day, designed by E. L. Rober, a New York architect, on the site of Joel Rathbone's store. This building is standing to-day, and has been used as banking quarters since it was built.

When this building became entirely inadequate because of the growth of business, the bank erected its new edifice at No. 100 State Street.

At that time it was one of the tallest buildings in the city. It was designed by Marcus T. Reynolds, and was first occupied on June 15, 1902.

The steady progress due to the remarkably successful administration of this bank brought about the necessity to create the newer building, whose high, classical tower seems a symbol of the lofty aspirations accomplished by the bank's officials. To-day it ranks as the most beautiful building in Albany.

Presidents: Hon. Erastus Corning, Sr., March 29, 1850; Erastus Corning, Jr., April 20, 1871; Edgar Cotrell, July 30, 1887; Dr. Peter M. Murphy, June 25, 1890; Gen. Selden E. Marvin, August 14, 1894; John E. Walker, February 8, 1899; Hon. William S. Hackett, October 3, 1917.

Treasurers: Watts Sherman, 1850; Henry H. Martin, 1851; Amos P. Palmer, 1871; Edward J. Gallien, 1891; William S. Hackett, 1893; Frank H. Williams, October 3, 1917.

The amount of deposits in 1884 was \$2,153,077.57; in 1904 it was \$3,995,254.73, and in 1924, the deposits approached \$25,000,000. The Surplus in 1924, is \$1,791,749.50. There are over 23,000 accounts.

MECHANICS' AND FARMERS' SAVINGS BANK

This bank was incorporated on April 12, 1855, and was located in the same building as the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank. It has always maintained a remarkable reputation for reliability and has held the confidence of all citizens by its well-known conservative methods and the character of its officials.

Its Presidents have been: Thomas Worth Olcott, April 12, 1855; succeeded by his son, Dudley Olcott, May 4, 1880, and when the latter died, December 28, 1919, he was followed in office by his nephew, Robert Olcott.

The Treasurer is Clarence Winthrop Stevens, who succeeded George G Davidson, a man well liked and known to every business man in Albany, who had held office many years.

In 1884, the deposits were \$1,312,588.05; in 1904 they were \$2,310,414.89, and in 1924, they reached \$3,103,512.25.

ALBANY EXCHANGE SAVINGS BANK.

One of the financial institutions of the ante-Rebellion period that is to-day gaining a steady growth in the Albany Exchange Savings Bank.

It was incorporated in April, 1856, and began business at No. 450 Broadway. For a short time, in 1904, it was located at No. 71 State street; but returned.

When it was organized on May 12, 1856, the first President was James MacNaughton, and its first Treasurer was Joseph M. Lovett.

The list of its Presidents follows: James MacNaughton, May 12, 1856; William G. Thomas, May 3, 1875; Isaac A. Chapman, March 7, 1883; John E. McElroy, May 9, 1894; William Dalton, July 10, 1895; John DeWitt Peltz, March 2, 1898; Joseph A. Lansing, April 6, 1898; Frederick A. Mead, February 1, 1904; Martin Townsend Nachtmann, April 1, 1912.

The Treasurer is Merlin C. Morrison, and Carl M. Cronk is Assistant Treasurer.

In 1884, the amount on deposit was \$712,612.56; in 1904, it was \$2,100,000, and in 1924 it reached \$4,246,496.75. The Surplus (market value) to-day is \$442,473.35. The Total Assets are \$4,688,970.10, and the number of accounts, 5,830.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK

In the heart of the commercial center of the city is the National Savings Bank, whither the stream of Albany's sturdy citizens flows, to pulsate back again to the places of their business, and then, thoughtful and thrifty; plodding seriously, or pushing on successfully, to return again with the regularity of a heart-throb.

This bank was incorporated on May 6, 1868. The first Board of Trustees met on April 27, 186, to organize, with these names on the roll: Robert Lenox Banks, Edwin Weld Corning, Erastus Corning, John J. Conroy, Isaac Edwards, Daniel Manning, Joseph Packard, Hon. Rufus Wheeler Peckham, Albion Ransom, Matthew H. Read, John Reynolds, William A. Rice, William H. Taylor, Benjamin A. Towner, John Tweddle, Adam Van Allen, and John H. Van Antwerp.

The officers elected then were: President, Hon. Erastus Corning; Vice-President, Adam Van Allen; 2nd Vice-President, Albion Ransom; Secretary and Treasurer, Albert Parsons Stevens,—men of high character in the community.

The bank opened first at No. 57 State street on June 28, 1869, and to No. 59 State street in May, 1875.

In 1903, it was decided to erect its own home. It materialized at Nos. 70-72 State street, as a marble building of great beauty designed by Marcus T. Reynolds, Architect. This one was first occupied on April 19, 1904.

The Presidents have been: Hon. Erastus Corning, Sr., April 27, 1869; John H. Van Antwerp, May 7, 1872 (died Dec. 14, 1903); Simon W. Rosendale, January 15, 1901; James Hilton Manning, January 9, 1904.

First Vice-Presidents: Adam Van Allen, April 27, 1869; John G. Myers, September 16, 1884; Garret A. Van Allen, January 21, 1902; Charles Gibson, September 20, 1909.

Second Vice-Presidents: Albion Ransom, April 27, 1869; John G. Myers, January 15, 1884; Garret A. Van Allen, September 16, 1884; James H. Manning, January 21, 1902; Charles Gibson, January 19,

1904; Wallace N. Horton, September 20, 1909; Edward J. Hussey, July 18, 1910.

Secretaries: Albert Parsons Stevens, April 27, 1869; Frederic B. Stevens, January 17, 1905; Charles J. Buchanan, April 16, 1907; Edgar M. Haines, January 8, 1916.

Treasurers: Albert Parsons Stevens, April 27, 1869; Egbert B. King, February 15, 1905; Frederic B. Stevens, January 15, 1907. The present incumbent, F. B. Stevens, has been secretary of the Savings Banks Association of the State of New York, and published its history, while the indefatigable president wrote a valuable work, "Century of American Savings Banks."

In 1884, the amount on deposit was \$3,344,369.71; in 1904, it was \$10,035,170.04, and in 1924 it is \$22,622,152.94; Surplus (market value), \$1,502,824.12; Total assets, \$24,124,977.06; Number of accounts, 26,077.

HOME SAVINGS BANK

To carry out the conception that a community is happiest if the individuals are investors in what makes for progress, — the creation of homes, the building of hospitals and the fostering of business enterprises, a number of conservative citizens took steps to organize the Home Savings Bank of the City of Albany.

It had its actual start under Chapter 915, Laws of 1871, as the "Sixth Ward Savings Bank of the City of Albany."

When the Act was passed on May 10, 1871, the following were named Trustees: Cornelius W. Armstrong, Robert C. Blackall, John Bridgford, John D. Capron, Edward Coyle, Thomas L. Goodwin, Edmund L. Judson, Charles E. Leland, Stephen Osgood Shepard, J. Wesley Smith, Philip Ten Eyck, John W. Van Valkenburgh, Robert H. Waterman and William White. These fourteen founders were regarded as men of good repute, capable and conscientious.

Cornelius W. Armstrong acted as temporary president, and Edmund Lewis Judson as secretary, at a meeting held at No. 470 Broadway, on May 22, 1871, when these first officers were chosen: President, William White; Vice-President, Robert H. Waterman; Secretary, Edmund L. Judson.

Mr. White was a merchant in a large way, senior partner of White & Capron, the largest dealers in grain in the State, east of Buffalo, with enormous warehouse and mills on the Columbia Street Pier. Edmund L. Judson was made Treasurer at a meeting held on January 25, 1872.

The name was changed to "Home Savings Bank of the City of Albany" by Chapter 244, Laws of 1872; passed April 16, 1872. William Lacy was selected Secretary, April 26, 1872. On January 13, 1876, the Incorporating Act was amended to provide a Second Vice-President, and Philip Ten Eyck was chosen for that office.

It was first located at No. 40 State street, where it was opened formally

on May 4, 1872. It was decided to pay 6% at the start; but the year 1875, being a period of stringent financial conditions throughout the country, it was made 5%. The deposits in the first year were \$264,102.58.

The Trustees purchased the Austin property at No. 14 No. Pearl street for \$32,500, on December 12, 1895, and made an exchange with the Albany Savings Bank for the Stark property at No. 13 No. Pearl street, January 13, 1896.

Plans for a 6-story building, drawn by Fuller & Wheeler were approved May 26, 1896. Building commenced immediately, and the bank was opened there on April 12, 1897. In 1912, a massive, steel vault, costing \$25,000, was installed.

The building loan plan was inaugurated in 1916, and the bank gained greatly in deposits. When the interest rate was increased to 4½% on June 9, 1919, it created a stir in banking circles, for 8,000 new accounts were started in a short time.

Presidents: William White, May 22, 1871 (d. Jan. 26, 1882); John D. Capron, April 7, 1882 (d. Feb. 3, 1913); Peter Kinnear, February 25, 1892 (d. May 16, 1913); James Ten Eyck, January 13, 1896 (d. July 28, 1910); David A. Thompson, October 10, 1910 (d. Oct. 23, 1919); Thomas Austin, April 10, 1916 (d. Oct. 22, 1922); Howard N. Fuller, January 8, 1922.

Vice-Presidents: Robert H. Waterman, May 22, 1871; Philip Ten Eyck, January 13, 1876; John D. Capron, January 8, 1880; David A. Thompson, April 17, 1882; Peter Kinnear, January 10, 1884; John Henry Farrell, February 25, 1892 (d. Feb. 2, 1901); Samuel L. Munson, February 11, 1901; Howard N. Fuller, November 14, 1910.

Treasurers: Edmund Lewis Judson, May 22, 1871; John D. Capron, February 25, 1892; William F. Hourigan, January 1, 1912; Arthur H. Geer, November 11, 1917.

Secretaries: Edmund L. Judson, May 22, 1871; William Lacy, April 26, 1872; Edward A. Durant, Jr., June 12, 1890; Samuel L. Munson, November 12, 1891; Walter McEwan, February 11, 1901 (d. May 11, 1908); Samuel C. Wooster, January 11, 1909; J. Edward Poole, February 9, 1914; Howard N. Fuller, January 10, 1921.

Assistant Treasurers: Wm. F. Hourigan, March 11, 1901 (d. Oct. 11, 1917); Arthur H. Geer, July 1, 1912; Frederick W. White, November 11, 1917.

The amount of Deposits in 1884 was \$506,926.47; in 1904, it was \$3,840,000, and in 1924, it is \$16,026,766.77. Surplus (market value), \$1,571,702.40. Accounts number 25,123.

ALBANY COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

Even without considering its steady growth, the Albany County Savings Bank certainly commends itself for progressiveness, when it is considered that it selected a site whereon stood the oldest house in the city; removed it, and erected thereon the first of all the modern bank buildings which make Albany so architecturally attractive.

A Charter was granted to the Albany County Savings Bank on April 30, 1874.

On that day, the trustees named in the Act met to organize, which list of the founders includes these names: LeGrand Bancroft, Royal Bancroft, Willard Bellows, A. M. Brumaghim, Henry A. Fonda, Frederick Hinckel, Rufus H. King, Jacob Leonard, Joseph Mann, Thomas McCarthy, Alexander Morris, James H. Pratt, Francis N. Sill, Cornelius Smith, Theodore D. Smith, Edwin Taylor, John Templeton, Jasper Van Wormer, Albert Wing and Benjamin Wooster. Rufus H. King withdrew, and Albert V. Bensen was chosen to fill the vacancy.

The first Board of Officers was thereupon constituted as follows: President, James H. Pratt; Vice-Presidents, Jasper Van Wormer, Albert Wing and Willard Bellows; Secretary, Albert V. Bensen; Treasurer, John Templeton.

The bank commenced business on the ground floor of Tweddle Hall, the northwest corner of State and Pearl streets. When the disastrous fire on the morning of January 16, 1883, destroyed Tweddle Hall, the bank removed hastily to No. 71 State street, where it opened at 10 a. m., as usual.

The bank outgrew these quarters within five years, and the Albany County Bank, seeking the most central commercial location in the city, purchased the old Staats house, long a landmark, at the southeast corner of State and So. Pearl streets, in December, 1887. Erecting a large building of stone, solid in appearance, it opened there on May 1, 1888.

The location of this bank is of so much interest historically that it merits this record.

The land was originally granted to Cornelius Steenwyck, who sold it to Philip Pieterse Schuyler, one of the two progenitors (brothers) of that family in America.

A double house was built thereon with brick brought over from Holland. The portion to the west, on the corner of Cow Lane (So. Pearl st.), was occupied by the Tavern of Robert Lewis in Revolutionary days, and when So. Pearl street was widened, for it was a lane or highway closed by a gate, it was razed.

But the remaining portion, to the east, was the residence of Mayor Johannes Schuyler, who bequeathed it to his son, Hon. Johannes Schuyler, Jr., also the Mayor, and he in turn, gave it to his son, General Philip Schuyler, who was born there on November 11, 1733. General Schuyler's daughter, Elizabeth, who married General Alexander Hamil-

ton (in the Schuyler Mansion, Dec. 14, 1780), was born therefn, August 9, 1757, four years before the Mansion was erected.

Presidents: James H. Pratt, April 30, 1874; Jasper Van Wormer, January 1, 1884 (d. Nov. 4, 1907); Seth Wheeler, January 13, 1908; William N. Sill Sanders, January 27, 1919; William L. Visscher, January 23, 1922.

Treasurerers: John Templeton, April 30, 1874; Wm. N. S. Sanders, January 29, 1890; Charles E. Byron, January 27, 1919.

The amount of deposits in 1884, was \$833,994.98; in 1904, it was \$6,828,427.95, and in 1924 is \$12,414,432.21. Surplus (market value), \$1,357,409.91. Number of accounts, —.

THE ALBANY TRUST CO.

The only trust company in the city is The Albany Trust Company, which was organized on March 20, 1900.

It began business at No. 452 Broadway, with a capital of \$200,000, divided into 2,000 shares.

It was the first institution of the kind in this section of the State, and is now the oldest and largest in the Capital District, organized under the Banking Law of the State of New York.

Its new banking house was erected on the ancient site of the old "Museum Building," of 1830, which was known later as the "Marble Pillar Building," because of the large columns ornamenting the rounding corner facade, at the northwest corner of State street and Broadway. It was designed by Marcus T. Reynolds, Architect, and is much admired. It was first occupied on September 5, 1904.

Its first President was John D. Parsons, Jr., who died December 16, 1904. Horace G. Young was elected to succeed him. Mr. Young resigned, and George Van Tuyl, Jr., was elected on July 3, 1908. He served until he resigned to accept the office of State Superintendent of Banks under Gov. John A. Dix, January 6, 1911. Charles H. Bissikummer was elected December 6, 1912, and is now the President who is ably progressing its important affairs.

The Capital is now \$400,000; Surplus, \$675,000.

The South End Branch was originally opened in 1915, at No. 145 So. Pearl street. A new home was found for it by entirely remodeling the building at the southwest corner of So. Pearl street and Madison avenue which was opened on May 15, 1924.

OTHER ALBANY BANKS

NOTE: The following information deals with local banks and trust companies now out of existence, and as a matter of history forms a part of the whole just as much as the past records of the existing banks, particularly as several banks of the present time are continuations of some of them.

CANAL BANK was incorporated in 1829.

It commenced business at No. 40 State street, with a capital of \$300,000.

Those comprising the original board of directors were: Lyman Chapin, Jeremiah Clark, Edwin Croswell, Edward C. Delavan, Richard Varick DeWitt, John L. Godfrey, James Goold, Alexander Marvin, John T. Norton, James Porter, Lyman Root, Israel Smith, Aaron Thorpe, Henry L. Webb and David Wood.

It elected John T. Norton its first President, and Theodore Olcott was its first and only Cashier.

It failed in July, 1848, being the first bank in the city to suffer in that manner, and the commission which investigated its affairs for the comptroller, did not reveal any fraud.

Presidents: John T. Norton, 1829; John Keyes Paige, 1835; Joseph Russell; Robert Hunter.

ALBANY CITY BANK was incorporated on April 30, 1834.

It had a capital of \$500,000, and commenced business on October 1, 1834.

The first Board of Directors contained these names: Anthony Blanchard, Thomas M. Burt, Hon. Erastus Corning, Sr., Samuel S. Fowler, Albert Gallup, Chauncey Humphrey, John Knower, Garret W. Ryckman, John L. Schoolcraft, William Seymour, William Smith, Martin Van Alstyne, and Peter Wendell.

The first officials were: President, Hon. Erastus Corning, Sr.; Vice-President, Samuel S. Fowler; Cashier, Watts Sherman.

It was opened first in a double building at No. 38 State street, occupying the east side, and the Commercial Bank on the west side. In 1840, the bank bought the store of Joel Rathbone, No. 47 State street, which was altered, and in 1873, it was re-erected according to plans by E. L. Rober, a New York architect. At the time it was opened, June, 1874, it was regarded as the finest bank building for miles around. It reorganized as a National bank on June 1, 1865, becoming known then as the Albany City National Bank.

Presidents: Hon. Erastus Corning, Sr., April 30, 1834 (died April 8, 1872); Erastus Corning, Jr., April 1872 (died Aug. 31, 1897); George Hornell Thacher, September 1897.

Watts Sherman, the first Cashier, April 30, 1834, resigned in July, 1851, and Henry H. Marvin was elected in his place. He resigned in December, 1870, and Amos P. Palmer was elected.

On May 1, 1920, the bank sold all its assets to the National Commercial Bank & Trust Company.

ALBANY EXCHANGE BANK was incorporated in 1838, with that title; but its name was changed to the National Exchange Bank on January 31, 1865, upon reorganization as a national institution.

Its original capital was \$311,000. It opened at No. 450 Broadway.

The original Directors were: Frederick K. Barnard, Galen Batchelder, Alfred Douglas, Henry Greene, Robert Hunter, James MacNaughton, John M. Newton, Robert L. Noyes, Giles Sanford, George W. Stanton, Oliver Steele, Samuel Stevens, Lansing G. Taylor, John Thomas and John Q. Wilson.

Presidents: John Q. Wilson, 1838; George W. Stanton, 1838 (died April, 1849); William Gould, January 31, 1865 (died June 27, 1886); Ichabod L. Judson; Chauncey Pratt Williams, 1875; Stephen H. Allen; John D. Parsons, Jr. (died Dec. 16, 1904); Chauncey E. Argersinger.

This bank was acquired by the First National Bank on April 29, 1907, when Chauncey E. Argersinger was President, and Charles C. Bullock its Cashier.

MERCHANTS BANK was incorporated on January 19, 1853.

It commenced with a capital of \$250,000, and began business at No. 59 State street, on April 7, 1853, with John Tweddle, President, and John Sill, Cashier.

It became the Merchants National Bank on April 22, 1865, when reorganized under National banking laws, and in 1869, removed to its own handsome brownstone building at No. 458 Broadway, Nathan D. Wendell being Cashier at that time, succeeded by J. Irving Wendell in 1874. In 1898, it removed to the ground floor of the Tweddle Building, northwest corner of State and Pearl streets.

The first Board of Directors was as follows:

James N. Bullock, Matthew J. Hallenbeck, Billings P. Learned, Henry P. Pulling, John Sill, John Tweddle, Richard Van Rensselaer, Maurice E. Viele and Gilbert L. Wilson.

Presidents: John Tweddle, January 19, 1853; Richard Van Rensselaer, 1875, J. Wilbur Tillinghast, 1899; Frederick Tillinghast, 1901.

This bank was acquired by the National Commercial Bank on December 14, 1901.

UNION BANK was first organized as the Bank of the Union, June 8, 1853, and began business at No. 35 State street, on January 1, 1854.

Its capital was \$250,000. Billings P. Learned, Sr., was chosen its first President, and John F. Batchelder was appointed its first Cashier.

In 1865, it was located at No. 446 Broadway. It passed from existence at the termination of its Charter on March 8, 1885.

BANK OF THE CAPITAL was incorporated and opened on April 1, 1853.

It had a capital of \$300,000, and was located at the northeast corner of State and James streets.

Noah Lee was its first President, and Horatio G. Gilbert its first Cashier. It failed on May 18, 1861, during Civil War panic, and Matthew H. Read was appointed its receiver.

NATIONAL BANK was opened in 1856, at No. 53 State street.

It had a capital of \$600,000. William E. Bleeker was chosen its President, and Robert C. Martin its first Cashier.

It failed on May 23, 1861, due to the Civil War panic.

BANK OF THE INTERIOR was incorporated in 1857.

It went into operation at No. 61 State street, on July 22, 1857. Josiah B. Plumb was chosen President, and John F. Batchelder its Cashier. Orlando Meads was made its receiver when it failed on May 1, 1861, due to Civil War panic.

HOPE BANK was incorporated in 1863.

It commenced business at the northeast corner of State and James streets, with a capital of \$100,000. James Hendrick was made its first President, and William Young its first Cashier.

It discontinued in 1874, and its stockholders were paid in full.

HOPE SAVINGS BANK commenced business in connection with the Hope Bank, in 1866, with John Tracey its President. It discontinued to do business in 1877, when it paid its depositors in full and closed.

ALBANY COUNTY BANK began business on May 15, 1871.

It was first located on the ground floor of Tweddle Hall, a large, brownstone building at the northwest corner of State and Pearl streets. It commenced with a capital of \$200,000 in 2,500 shares.

Its first Board of Directors comprised: Royal Bancroft, A. W. Brumaghim, Henry A. Fonda, Jacob Leonard, Joseph Mann, Francis N. Sill, Cornelius Smith, Theodore D. Smith, Edwin Taylor, John Templeton, and Benjamin W. Wooster.

Jacob Leonard was elected the first President, and John Templeton its first Cashier.

On the morning of the fire that destroyed Tweddle Hall, January 16, 1883, the bank was removed immediately to No. 71 State street. It bought the ancient Staats residence (wherein Gen. Philip Schuyler was born on November 11, 1733), at the southeast corner of State and Pearl streets, and the new building erected on that site was first occupied on May 14, 1888.

Presidents: Jacob Leonard, May 15, 1871; Benjamin W. Wooster, January 8, 1878; Francis N. Sill, January 12, 1892; John R. Carnell, January 14, 1896.

Its interests were acquired by the New York State National Bank, December 10, 1912.

PARK BANK OF ALBANY was organized on January 7, 1889.

It was incorporated on February 1, 1889, and commenced its business on February 4, 1889, at No. 7 Central avenue, with a capital of \$100,000.

It moved into its new building at the southeast corner of Washington

avenue and Lark street, and became a branch of the Union Trust Company in 1902. Grange Sard was elected its President on January 7, 1889.

The Park Bank became a branch of the Union Trust Company in 1902.

SOUTH END BANK was organized in 1889.

It commenced business with a capital of \$100,000, and was located at No. 62 South Pearl street.

Presidents: Jonathan R. Herrick, 1889; Edward A. Maher, 1891; Peter Kinnear, 1893.

It passed from existence in 1896.

UNION TRUST COMPANY was organized on February 26, 1902.

It began business on March 10, 1902, at No. 47 State street, formerly the quarters of the Albany City National Bank. It had a capital of \$250,000, divided into 2,500 shares. It acquired the Park Bank of Albany in 1902, and created it a branch.

Presidents: Grange Sard, February 27, 1902 (died May 12, 1924); Thomas Irwin Van Antwerp.

It was consolidated with the National Commercial Bank on May 1, 1920.

Other banks which were organized but failed to operate: Albany Dime Savings Bank, 1854; Six-penny Savings Bank, 1854; Mercantile Savings Bank, 1855; Union Savings Bank, 1855.

HEALTH

It is conceded that Medicine had an early start in Albany, for it is a fact that every Dutch ship was provided with someone corresponding to a surgeon, and on arrival here they came in contact with the "medicine man" of Indian tribes.

The settler scoffed at the "necromancy" of the Redman, in the same degree as the surgeon of to-day scorns the practices of the physician of the past.

The statement impels two thoughts,—the thankfulness that we have made the progress which serves to show that we will continue to improve by intellectual attainments. It is a case of pride in our past and faith in the future.

In those early days, before barbers employed the sign of a white pole striped with a blood-red swab, to indicate that they were forerunners of the surgeon, and could "let" or "cup" the blood as well as trim the beard, the clergyman, who was dignified by the title domine, was soon followed to old Fort Orange by the "comforter of the sick."

They termed him then the "kranckbesoecker" or "zieckentrooster," meaning literally the "sick comforter." The first of these to function here was Sebastian Jansen Crol, who arrived in 1626, under authority as Vice-Director and Commissary. He served judiciously and well for the long term of twenty years, and was duly respected.

In the year 1646, he was succeeded by Harmanus Myndertse van den Bogart, who was the ship surgeon aboard the *Eendraght* when it arrived here in 1630. He met death in 1648, by being burned to death in an Indian wigwam on the Mohawk river.

By the year 1642, the Colony of Rensselaerswyck had grown to the extent that the Patroon, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, sent to his colony Domine Magapolensis, and arriving on the same ship was Surgeon Abraham Staats.

At this period, the City was a hamlet of not more than thirty houses, built along the river's bank, and extending northward from Fort Orange. In the very same year this surgeon's home in Claverack (Greenbush, or Rensselaer) was burned by the Indians, and his wife, along with the members of his family, was cremated.

Prominent physicians of various nationalities who have left memories conspicuous in the records, arrived at intervals shortly afterward.

Johannes de la Montagne was a Huguenot surgeon of prominence who, after arriving at Manhattan in 1637, became the vice-director at Fort Orange, officiating 1656-1664. He got into trouble with the Indians as a chemist by not being able to distinguish between gold and pyrites.

Surgeon De Hinse was a Frenchman who practised at Fort Orange in 1666. He aided some French soldiers who had been chasing Indians from Canada, and received official thanks for professional services. The daily salary then of the surgeon at Fort Orange was two shillings, six-pence.

Scotland was represented by a physician named Dr. Lockhart, who came to Albany in 1689, and had an extensive practice throughout the length of the stockaded city,—the northern limit at Columbia street.

Dr. Samuel Stringer, who will be remembered forever as the donor of a portion of the land upon which the first Masonic Temple was built, northwest corner of Lodge street and Maiden Lane, came here from Maryland, and in 1755 was made a member of the medical department of the British Army.

He accompanied General Abercrombie on his northern expedition against the French of Canada, in 1758, and was present when Lord Howe fell while advancing to the siege of Ticonderoga.

Stringer served until the war ended, when he settled in Albany; married here, and remained in local practice until the outbreak of the Revolution, when he was appointed Director-General of Hospitals in the Northern Department by the Congress. In this capacity he accompanied troops on the invasion of Canada. He was the close friend and family physician of Gen. Philip Schuyler, whose later years in life were burdened by the illness of old age.

After the Revolution, Stringer returned to Albany, where he spent the remainder of a long life. He was always dressed in cocked hat, wore tight breeches, and his shoes bore enormous buckles. Such a picture would cause one to believe that he looked not unlike Father Knickerbocker.

Dr. Nicholas Schuyler was a prominent surgeon of this locality who participated in the Revolution. After rendering valuable service until the close of the war, he returned to Albany, and died at Troy in 1824.

Dr. J. Cochran, of Pennsylvania, served as a surgeon in the Revolutionary Army in high position. He became Surgeon-General of the Middle Department, and in 1781 was appointed Director-General of the Hospitals of the United States. At the close of the war he settled in Albany.

Moses and Elias Willard, brothers, who were natives of New England, participated with their father in the bloody battle at Lexington. Elias came to Albany in 1801, and practised here for twenty-five years, his brother coming here later.

Hunloke Woodruff (1755-1811), a graduate of Princeton, made a reputation recognized to-day by every man of the local medical profession, although he died when only 56 years old. Just before the Revolution, he settled in Albany and was appointed a surgeon of one of the New York regiments. He went to Canada with the Northern Army, and was with Col. Peter Gansevoort during the siege of Ft. Stanwix. He

also attended General John Sullivan on his famous expedition against the Indians in the western part of the State, in 1779.

When great numbers of wounded troops were brought to Albany from the Ticonderoga battlefield in 1777, Mrs. Philip Schuyler established a hospital in their large barn at The Flatts in Watervliet, where she personally tended to their sufferings.

James Thacher, a reliable historian of medical events of that period and himself a Revolutionary surgeon attached to the Army of the North, relates in his book, "*American Revolution*," that a Hospital was erected in Albany during the French war.

Thacher describes this Albany hospital as he saw it in 1788:—"It is situated on an eminence overlooking the City. It is two stories high, having a wing at each end and a piazza in front, above and below. It contains forty wards, capable of accommodating 500 patients, besides the rooms appropriated to the use of the surgeons and other officers."

It has been related that for several months after the close of the Revolution, Albany was filled with the sick and wounded brought from the various battlefields, and that these numbered not less than one thousand. They crowded the Hospital, the Dutch church and many private houses for half a year.

Dr. James Thacher states: "We have 30 surgeons, and all are constantly employed. The wounded of the British and Hessian troops are accommodated in the same hospital with our own, and receive equal attention.

"The foreigners are under the care of their own surgeons. I have been present at several of their capital operations and remember that the English surgeons perform with skill and dexterity; but the Germans, with few exceptions, do no credit to their profession."

Albany has experienced several epidemics which are noteworthy because of the serious scope of these widespread afflictions and the diligence displayed to divert overwhelming disaster.

As far back as 1710, Governor Hunter wrote of the conditions he found in Albany at a time when there was general sickness,—saying: "Here is the finest air to live upon in the Universe." He continued to explain that it was common knowledge that the citizens of this community suffered far less seriously than those of New England or the South, when epidemics raged.

Smallpox made dreadful ravages among the savages and settlers in the year 1713, the former losing more than a thousand members of their tribes, and Connecticut maintained a quarantine against New Netherland.

The Barbadoes distemper reached Albany in 1746. It was brought here by foreign sailing vessels; commencing in August, and ending with the frost. Physicians have since decided that this was another term for yellow fever. It had 45 victims. This was followed in 1752 by "spotted fever."

Chancellor John Lansing, while in New York city, wrote to this city on September 21, 1793, advising the authorities that a vessel had passed up the river carrying two persons aboard from Philadelphia, a place infected with yellow fever.

The Common Council held a meeting immediately and ordained that no vessel should pass above the Overslaugh bar at Douw's Point, without examination, and proceeded to recommend October 1st as a day for fasting and prayer in all churches.

It happened that on September 23rd, there arrived at Greenbush (Rensselaer) the Hon. Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, and "his lady." Health officers examined them as they had come from the South.

A certificate was issued to them reading as follows:—"This is to certify that we have visited Col. Hamilton and his lady at Greenbush this evening, and that they are in perfect health, and from every circumstance we do not conceive there can be the least danger of their conveying the disease of the pestilential fever, at present prevalent in Philadelphia, to any of their fellow citizens. Samuel Stringer, W. Mancius, W. McClellan, H. Woodruff, Cornelius Roosa."

In local medical annals the "black plague" or cholera epidemic of 1832 stands out prominently. In the long stretch of three centuries this was probably the worst, and it certainly was when considering the number of inhabitants living here then.

This disease made its first appearance in this country at Quebec, and broke out here a fortnight afterward. There is no question that it created great alarm.

Mayor John Townsend immediately requested the medical profession to take the most urgent steps possible to prevent its progress. Thereupon, a City staff was organized, consisting of Doctors Jonathan Eights, Joel A. Wing, Henry Greene, James P. Boyd, John F. Townsend, Peter Wendell, John James, James MacNaughton and Alden March.

They met every evening at the City Hall, where they gathered the gruesome records and entered the names of those who died daily in an album. The cases reported numbered 1,147, and 422 were fatal.

Practically every street contained barrels of burning tar, and the smell of smoke rested above the dying as a heavy pall of black. The churches were filled at all hours of the day and far into the night by those who sought religious comfort. The dead were carried off quickly in all manner of conveyances to the cemeteries in the dead of night, without the covering of a coffin, for they could not be improvised in such quantities.

During the World War, in the Autumn of 1917, Albanians experienced an epidemic of virulent influenza, termed Spanish type. All beds in every hospital were filled as well as many homes, and temporary buildings had to be erected hastily. It caused numbers of patients to suffer spinal meningitis.

ALBANY HOSPITAL

The oldest and largest hospital in the City today was founded in 1849 with the simple title,—the Albany Hospital.

It was first advocated by Dr. Alden March on January 11, 1830. The proposition was discussed at a meeting of physicians and public-spirited citizens January 7, 1838.

The Hospital was incorporated on April 14, 1843, and a committee to secure a building was named July 14, 1851. The person who reads this statement must be struck by the thought that this public necessity had an unwarranted slow growth, if the agitation by citizens covered more than twenty years, before there was any result.

It was first opened in an ordinary building at the corner of Madison avenue and Dove street, November 1, 1851.

Through the effort of Dr. James H. Armsby it was able on March 19, 1852, to purchase the large building on the southeast corner of Eagle and Howard streets. This had been the county jail, and the prisoners were removed to a new one, June 2, 1853, built on the north side of Maiden Lane, a little east of the City Hall, now (1924) an open plat of ground.

The Hospital was opened there on August 8, 1854. This was a fortunate location, being a central situation then, and directly opposite the Albany Medical College, which had acquired the old Lancastrian School building, it was convenient for the instruction of medical students.

Dr. Armsby not only gave his unstinted professional services, but credit is due to him for raising \$100,000, and in 1872 an addition as large again was built on the east side.

In 1885, it was crowded in attempting to hold 150 patients, and a new, modern hospital was much to be desired in every way, for the building being very old, it was particularly antiquated for work demanding modern skilled methods in surgery.

At that time, 1885, Dr. Thomas Hun was Chief Consulting Physician, and Doctors Samuel H. Freeman, Joseph Lewi, John M. Bigelow and Samuel B. Ward, Attending Physicians; Doctors Albert Vander Veer, William Hailes and Norman L. Snow, Attending Surgeons.

A fine open space of considerable area to the north of New Scotland avenue, was selected, and one of the earliest large "drives" or campaigns to secure funds was inaugurated. Doctor Albert Vander Veer, Sr., the dean of the fraternity, was the leader in the movement and Dr. Henry Hun, an active worker in the cause. Approximately \$250,000 was secured.

The cornerstone was laid by the Masonic fraternity June 23, 1898. Albert W. Fuller was the architect. There was a central administration building facing the South, and a large pavilion, two stories high, on either side, connected with it by closed corridors. The first patient was admitted May 15, 1899.

The President of the Board is Charles Gibson, and the Chief of Medical Staff is Dr. Thomas Ordway, Dean of the Albany Medical College. The Superintendent is Willard D. Rockefeller.

The Albany Hospital furnishes 425 beds.

On May 1, 1924, the sum of \$750,000 was pledged to erect a modern 6-story building to provide for pressing needs.

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL

The second largest and oldest hospital and one which has carried on an extremely useful work for more than half a century is St. Peter's Hospital, organized in 1869.

It was opened in the large four-story brick building standing on the southeast corner of Broadway and North Ferry street, once occupied by Stephen Van Rensselaer, son of the old Patroon bearing the same name.

In order to establish the age of this historic building and explain as a record for future use why Mr. Van Rensselaer was not living in the Manor House, which was only one block to the north, this statement is made briefly, merely to establish facts which at some time others may seek in vain.

Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer (son of Stephen and Catherine Livingston Van Rensselaer), a hero wounded in the War of 1812 with Great Britain, was born in 1764, in the home of his grandfather, Philip Livingston, Signer of the Declaration, then in New York city, but a native Albanian.

His father (Stephen) died in 1769. In 1775, his mother (being a widow residing at her home in the Manor House) married Domine Eilardus Westerlo, of the First Reformed Dutch Church (before the building was erected on No. Pearl street), and they occupied the Manor House. When her son, Stephen, aged twenty years, married Margaret (daughter of Gen. Philip Schuyler), on June 6, 1783, he was given the house on Broadway for a temporary home. Mrs. Catherine Livingston Van Rensselaer Westerlo died in the Manor House on April 17, 1810.

It seems probable that the building mentioned was built before 1783, and was probably erected (or some part thereof) when Stephen Van Rensselaer married in that year, because as the heir presumptive to the Manor his guardian, Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck, provided him with a suitable home in the court part of the city. Therefore, if this be the same building as local historians aver, it would be one of the oldest houses now existing in this city, only twenty years newer than the Schuyler Mansion.

It is said that its location near two railroads accounts for an unusual number of accident cases, and as a fact it has accomplished much good work for emergency calls in the business section, no matter what the creed or nationality. It was estimated in 1886, that it had then treated

25,000 patients free of charge. About the year 1900, it was enlarged following a popular subscription to make it possible to furnish modern conveniences and methods.

At that time, 1886, Dr. Thomas Hun, Dr. Samuel B. Ward and Dr. Daniel V. O'Leary were the consulting physicians; Doctors Albert Vander Veer and Lewis Balch the consulting surgeons; Doctors Henry Hun, Selwyn A. Russell and T. Kirk Perry, the attending physicians; Doctors Samuel R. Morrow, Peter J. Keegan and William Hailes, attending surgeons.

It has secured by a campaign for funds in 1923, a building fund to provide a new hospital in the southern outskirts.

President, Rt. Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons; Medical Director, Joseph A. Cox. It contains 135 beds, in 27 rooms.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

The Albany City Dispensary Association was the forerunner of the Memorial Hospital, which thus traces its excellent work for the city back to the time that institution was organized,—November 26, 1867.

Looking still further back, to form a comprehensive history, one must consider events when Homeopathy was introduced into Albany by Dr. Augustus P. Biegler, from the University of Berlin, coming here in November, 1837. This was at the same time that the people were discussing the establishing of the Albany Hospital. There were only a few converts to the new method, but he practised it persistently.

Dr. Biegler was followed by Dr. Henry D. Paine, from Newburgh, in 1845, and Dr. E. Darwin Jones began to practise here in 1846. Ten years later, Dr. Horace M. Paine came here, followed in 1861, by Dr. James W. Cox and also by Dr. David Springsteed, who moved here from Bethlehem, and they adopted the system of the new school. A year later, Dr. John Savage Delavan was added to the list of respected practitioners.

In 1873, Dr. William E. Milbank appeared, and he holds the record of being the only one living of the first fifty names on the roll recorded in 1884.

The first meeting to organize a Dispensary was held in the home of Dr. Horace M. Paine, then at No. 104 State street, Dr. E. Darwin Jones presiding, and Emerson W. Keyes acting as the secretary. Dr. Jones was appointed to draft a constitution, and at a meeting held in his office, No. 140 State street, it was adopted on November 7, 1867.

The members on the first board of trustees were chosen on November 26, 1867, and were Dr. James W. Cox, William Lacy, Samuel A. Stratton, Samuel Moffit, Emerson W. Keyes, Dr. E. Darwin Jones and Dr. Horace M. Paine, elected in the office of Dr. Cox, No. 109 State street. William Lacy was made the first president.

The trustees adopted a resolution on April 4, 1871, directing the incorporation of "The Albany City Homeopathic Hospital." It held its first meeting on November 6, 1872, at which time its constitution was adopted.

The old Dispensary and the Hospital were united, when, on January 21, 1874, it elected Erastus Corning, President; Chauncey Pratt Williams, Vice-President; Edmund Leonard Judson, Treasurer, and Dr. Horace M. Paine, Secretary, which action was legally effected by Chapter 435 of the Laws of 1875, and the first meeting of the consolidated institutions held on January 18, 1875. Hon. Eli Perry, Mayor of Albany, was then elected President; Amos P. Palmer, Treasurer, and G. Dudley Van Vliet, Secretary.

The Dispensary had first occupied the first floor of the building on the west side of Green street midway between Hudson avenue and Division street; when at the end of the year it moved to the ground floor of No. 7 Plain street, and in 1873 to No. 75 Division street, purchased by the Albany City Homeopathic Hospital. In 1875, it purchased No. 123 No. Pearl street, a wide brick building, between Clinton avenue and Orange street, where it remained for nearly 35 years.

It was decided on December 8, 1901, to purchase the property known as Nos. 159 to 167 No. Pearl street, and on December 23, 1902, it was determined to add to this area Nos. 155 and 157 No. Pearl street, by purchase.

Mr. Marcus T. Reynolds was chosen the architect for the new building on January 4, 1902. His plans, being modern in conception and suiting the situation, were accorded first honor.

The building is of brick, five stories high, with a frontage of 142 feet, upon land measuring 210 feet, running through the block to Broadway.

This new building was opened on April 29, 1909.

The name was changed to the Memorial Hospital in May, 1923.

The President of the Board of Trustees is Edgar M. Griffiths; Samuel L. Munson, Vice-President; Peter G. Ten Eyck, Second Vice-President; George A. White, Secretary, and George A. Plant, Treasurer.

The Medical Director is Dr. J. Ivimey Dowling; Chief of Surgical Department, Dr. Arthur B. Van Loon; and the Superintendent, Frederick G. Ehrenburg. The President of the Woman's Auxiliary, Mrs. DeLancey M. Ellis.

The Nurses' Home was secured at No. 716 Broadway, in January, 1906, and was first occupied on May 1, 1906; Superintendent of Nurses' Training School, Sarah B. Palmer, R. N.

CHILD'S HOSPITAL

In a modest way, in November, 1874, Bishop William Croswell Doane started a hospital for children in a small dwelling on the south side of Elk street, between Hawk and Swan streets, and establishing the Order of the Holy Child Jesus, placed it in the care of that sisterhood.

It was intended at first to care for children whose parents were engaged at work; but it was found that first one child and then another stood sorely in need of medical attention which their poor parents could not provide. It was thus that the lease for half a house was soon doubled to include the whole.

A Board of Lady Managers was formed to look after its financial management, and a hospital was built of brick on the north side of Elk, near Hawk street.

It became the only hospital that would take in babies or young children between New York, Montreal, Boston and Buffalo. When contagious diseases appeared, it was found necessary to erect the small St. John's Hospital close at hand.

The first physicians on the staff were Doctors Thomas Hun, Thomas M. Trego, Cyrus S. Merrill, Lewis Balch, Henry Hun, John Swinburne, and James W. Cox.

A new building was erected, the cornerstone of which was laid in 1890, at No. 41 Elk street, being at the northwest corner of Hawk street, and it was first occupied in 1891.

St. Christina Home, or Summer Hospital, was created through the kindness of Mrs. Katrina Trask, wife of Spencer Trask, banker of New York city, with country home at Saratoga in 1900, for the children who could be removed for the summer months.

President of the Board, Mrs. William Bayard Van Rensselaer; Chief of Staff, Dr. Cyrus S. Merrill; Dr. Arthur W. Elting, Chief Surgeon. Number of beds, 60; 50 rooms; 8 private rooms.

St. Margaret's House for a babies' home, orphans, etc., opened new house in 1895, at No. 45 Elk street.

ALBANY HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES

A retreat for cripples, the indigent sick and incurables was started by Mrs. Eleanor Spensley about 1882.

To her self-sacrificing years of solicitude for the unfortunates of a city, Albany of the past and of today owes the gratitude of a gracious memory to the one who took the unhappy by the hand and led them over to the sunny side of the street.

It was conducted first in one or two upper rooms engaged in a house on No. Pearl street. Next, it was located in a broad house, No. 390 Madison avenue, on the south side, below Lark street, and a few years later rented the old Bleecker home at the southwest corner of Madison avenue and Philip street.

Kenwood Heights was selected in 1903 as an ideal location for the institution, because it was in the healthy open country. Fourteen acres were secured, extending southward to the roadway along "Mount Hope," formerly the Prentice property.

This important movement was made possible only by the keen interest and indefatigable energy of Walter Whipple Batchelder, Vice-President of the National Commercial Bank & Trust Company, who died February 25, 1923.

The President of the Board is Peter D. Kiernan. The attending physicians are Doctors Louis J. DeRusso, Frederick Conway and Joseph A. Cox. The Superintendent is Miss Mary McHugh, who has been in charge and worked assiduously for a great many years. The ages of the inmates extend from 5 to 85 years, and there are beds for 100 patients.

BRADY MATERNITY HOSPITAL

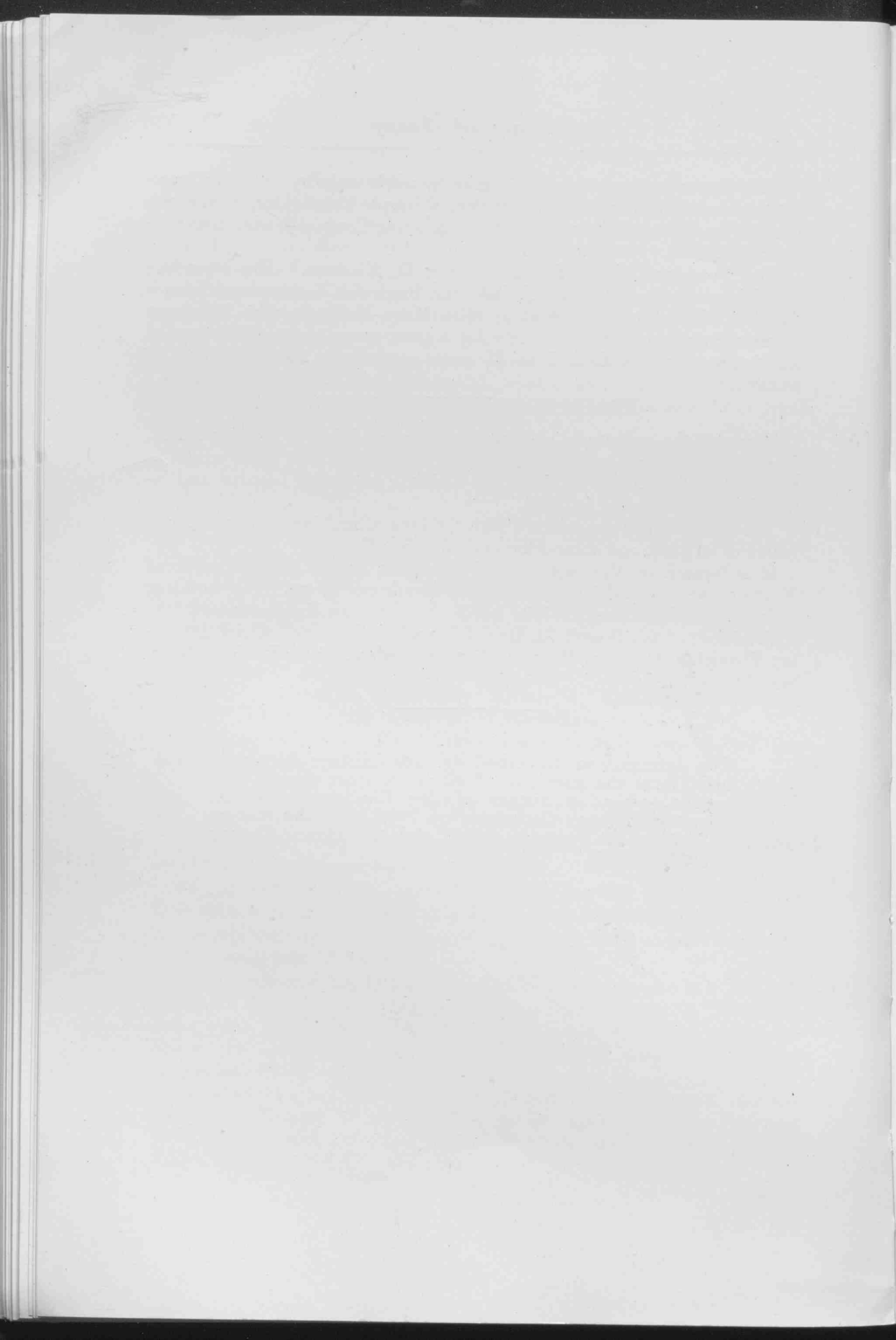
Through the solicitude and kindly effort of Bishop Thomas M. A. Burke and the generosity of Anthony N. Brady, who died while in London, England, July 22, 1913, on a visit, a maternity hospital and infant home was started in 1915.

The building was constructed with the idea of making it a model institution of its kind, and success has crowned the effort.

It is located on the east side of No. Main avenue, to the north of Western avenue, and is surrounded by handsome lawns. The building is five stories high, and exhibits inside every modern improvement.

President of the Board, Rt. Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons. Chief Attending Physician, Dr. Paul Harper. Superintendent, Sister Louise. Number of beds, 50.

The information furnished in this History blazes in brief form the narrative of 40 years, more than a generation, when no history of this City was prepared, excepting "Albany Chronicles" in 1906, since the History of Arthur J. Weise in 1884, and the Howell-Tenney volume of 1886.



PAGEANT

THE LANDING OF THE DUTCH AT ALBANY IN 1624

By Dr. James Sullivan

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of Education

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THE LANDING OF THE DUTCH AT ALBANY, 1624

Written by *Dr. James Sullivan*

SCENE — A woodland on the west bank of the Hudson. In the river about a hundred yards from shore stands the ship "New Netherland" (the "Halfmoon" is to be used to represent her) and in mid-stream lies the barkentine U.S.S. Newport. Under the trees are seated Indian men and women working at various occupations. Some are weaving baskets, braiding ropes, others making pottery, fire keepers, mealing corn, fashioning arrow shafts and bows, scraping skins, carving wood, paddles, making flint points, etc. Some of the women are walking about with papooses on their backs. Some of the men are standing in groups talking and smoking pipes. Children are romping about playing games of follow the leader, etc. Three Dutch traders stand in a group by themselves. They have leaned their muskets against a tree. The traders, like the Indians, are in earnest consultation. On the water's edge strung out in a single line are Indian men, women and children watching the "New Netherland" in the river, on which there is a bustling activity preparatory to landing. Indians in canoes are paddling their craft around the ship. On the "New Netherland" may be seen in costume Captain May, Cataline Trico, Thieupont, Phillippe du Trieux, Krol and Rapelje. The first is shouting and giving orders to boatmen on the east side of the ship, who however cannot be seen from the shore. Finally the Indians who have been in consultation approach the Dutch traders. The Indians who have been sitting about under the trees group themselves behind the Indians who have approached the traders, leaving their work behind them. All then are seated except the single Indian who remains standing. Opposite him stand the three traders. The Indian Chief (Tei-soñ-ko-mo) then addresses the traders. Before this address of the Indian Chief takes place the following conversation has taken place in the small group of Indians who had been in consultation.

ALNOBA

When the first pale people came over the great sunrise water to this land of Mahikanaki it was their custom to come to trade their goods for ours. Then only men came and no women. They brought with them only the weapons of the hunter and the stores of trader, and sought only to obtain our furs in return for them. Now they come for a far different purpose. In the great canoe which has just come up from the Sewan-áki are to be seen the implements which the pale people use when they purpose to stay on our land forever, and in the end take it all away from us. Thus have they done on the lands of the Massachusetts and on the lands of Powhatan-aki, far to the south, so our messengers say. If we allow these people to land and build their homes here, as it is their seeming intention, they will gradually push us from our ancient seats and we shall find ourselves without land for cabins or corn fields. Let us therefore tell them that while we are willing that they should come here to trade we do not wish them to hew down our forests and build homes for their women and children.

NAHAMA

What our brother says we shall do, but the pale people who seized the lands of the Massachusetts and those to the southward were not the same as these who come here. They were the English and these are the Dutch. The Dutch are like the French to the north. They come chiefly to trade and such settlements as they make are only for a short time. Therefore would I say that they should be permitted to land for great good will come to us from their trade. Then they will also help us in our quarrels with our enemies, the Mohawks.

ALNOBA

More are these pale people to be feared than the Mohawks, and if you let them land I foresee the day when we shall be driven from our homes and these pale people will take our domain and build their settlements and stay forever. Let us now determine our will on this matter and whichever way is spoken this we shall follow and tell the pale people the thoughts that lay upon our hearts.

(Then they vote in groups, the leaders of which announce the decision in favor of allowing the white people to land. The only one not in favor is Alnoba, who has spoken against it. He holds up his hatchet as a sign of dissent. When this decision is reached the Indian Chief, Tei-soñ-ko-mo, gathers all the Indians about him, as in the directions given above, and begins his speech to the white traders, who approach and give attention.)

TEI-SON-KO-MO

Brethren, you must know that the Great Spirit who made all things gave us this great island and brought us to this ground. He gave you a country beyond the great water. Our ancestors in former times did not know that there were nations of pale people in the world until they saw a great winged canoe coming to shore. At first they were afraid, not knowing what it was, but when they saw the people they soon discovered they were made like themselves but that the Great Spirit had made them pale. They then received them in their arms, and tied the ship fast that the winds or the water should not carry her away. And they gave them a pleasant place to sit down upon so that all might exchange their goods. Then we took the Dutch for our brethren and they made a silver chain of friendship for us Indians to take hold of which would not attract any rust. This was the beginning of our friendship with the Dutch.

(Gives four strings of white wampum to the traders.)

Brethren, in those days when the Dutch first came to this country our people welcomed them and made more of a chance to trade but now it seems that the pale people are bringing with them unknown implements such as they always bring when they are going to stay in a country forever. It looks now to us as if our brethren wanted to drive us entirely out of the country. The French to the north of us say that is what our brethren are going to do and this is what the English did to our Massachusetts brethren and some of our people to the southward were treated in the same way.

(Gives six strings of black wampum.)

Brethren, as the Great Spirit has directed your great rulers who live over the water to order that no injustice shall be done us by their people, he has likewise directed us, whom he will acknowledge for his children as well

as you, to throw from your minds and our minds all evil thoughts. So we have talked among ourselves and we now tell you that we shall be glad to have your people come here to trade and settle for the purposes of trade.

(Gives four strings of wampum.)

(The leader of the three traders, Krieckenbeeck, now takes up the reply which he gives as follows.)

KRIECKENBEECK

Brethren, the Mohicans: We have heard what you have said and we have taken from you the strings of wampum as a sign that you have wisely turned away from your minds all the evil of your hearts and solicited the Great Spirit to direct your councils for the future. You have renewed and brightened the chain of friendship with your brethren the Dutch, and you may depend on it that your brethren will never violate it. We hope that you on your parts will take care to observe it by continually advising your children how to behave towards their brethren, the Dutch. The people who are on the ship in the river are not all of our flesh and blood but are drawn from another land than ours. They come here asking you to let them settle down to make new homes for themselves. They will be friends with you and help you against your enemies. They will trade with you and bring you great profit. We assure you of the hearty inclination there is in them and in us to cultivate a lasting friendship with the Mohicans.

(Gives belt.)

(At this point there is considerable commotion among the Indians that have been standing along the water's edge. One of these runs in great haste to the Indian Chief who has been the spokesman for the Indians.)

INDIAN MESSENGER

They land! The white people are coming from the ship to our shore!

TEI-SON-KO-MO

Make ready to receive them. Stand firm about me while the chief of the new pale people comes to speak.

(Meantime while the conference above has been taking place the boats which have been behind the "New Netherland" filled with the settlers have been joined by the six people who were conspicuous on the "New Netherland" and been rowed to the landing place. At the point when the messenger runs to announce this fact to the chief, Captain May with Cataline Trico, Rapelje, Thieupont, du Trieux, and Krol, followed by the others, have landed on the shore and are now walking up in a group to the assembled Indians. Before reaching the group Captain May turns to his settlers, some of whom are carrying hoes, spades and other agricultural utensils, and two of whom are carrying a crude plow.)

CAPTAIN MAY

You see my fellows that this is a fairer land to settle on than that which we found to the southward at the mouth of the river. There was much stone and the roots of the trees and shrubs were very thick so that it was impossible to plow the ground. Here there is much flat land ready for

the plow to turn over at once. This is the kind of country that the Dutch love for it is like their own and when we go to a new land we do not stay on the hills and mountains but always seek those parts where land is suitable for easy cultivation.

CATALINE TRICO

Would to God I had never come to such a forsaken country! These savages frighten me. I would that I could go back. Had I not been so sick in the crossing I surely would wish to return to my beautiful homeland.

RAPELJE

Be silent, girl! Here is the land of promise and opportunity. Back in our country we had only persecution and poverty. Here we have freedom and the hope of wealth. It is such as we that make for the progress of the world and in this settlement there will arise a great city for it is the best site both for good agriculture and profitable fur trade.

(Capt. May with the group of colonists then continue their approach to the Indian Chief. Capt. May being joined by the three traders stands and addresses the Indians as follows.)

CAPTAIN MAY

Brethren, we have come from a country over the great water. We have suffered many hardships and we are glad at last to have arrived at a place where we may settle. We shall trade with you and keep up the friendship which the Dutch always maintain with the natives of foreign lands. We see the difficulty you have in getting sufficient food and we come here with implements to help you get it. We hope that the Great Spirit has removed any evil thoughts from your minds as he has from ours and that you will let us stay here for the benefit of all. We would not have you do this without giving you something in return. In our chests on the ship we have goods which we shall distribute to you for the privilege of being allowed to settle here.

(One of the traders gives Capt. May a belt which he in turn hands to the Indian Chief.)

TEI-SON-KO-MO

Brethren, the Dutch: We have taken counsel among ourselves and it is in our hearts to let you land and settle here. We ask an assurance that you do not take our land away from us or drive us hence. We wish to have you come here to trade and when we are starving to help us to get food. When you are settled in this country we wish you to do all of us Indians justice. We are a poor people and we wish you to be kind to those who are not able to support themselves. This summer we hope to have a great council and when that is over we will let you know what we have done and what part of our country you may raise provisions on, that you may not have to bring them from your country over the great sunrise water.

(He gives a belt to Capt. May and the settlers are then surrounded by the Indians who touch their garments and look at them with great curiosity.)

THE FOUNDING OF THE CITY OF ALBANY

A PAGEANT

in Celebration of the
Tercentenary of the First Settlement
in New York State

1624

Written and Produced by
VIRGINIA TANNER, A. M.

For The
TERCENTENARY CELEBRATION
of
ALBANY

JUNE 2-4, 1924

Acted and Sung and Danced
by the Citizens of Albany

June 2, 3, at 7 o'clock
Washington Park

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Virginia Tanner

MASTER OF THE PAGEANT

Virginia Tanner.

Costumes under personal supervision of Raymond Sovey, New York.

Technical Advisor of Music, Margaret Walch, Boston.

Community Chorus under direction of Elmer A. Tidmarsh.

Adams Tenth Infantry Band, Lieut. Roscoe C. Adams conductor.

Costumes from Charles Chrisdie & Co. New York.

Wigs from Plücker and Ahrens, N. Y.

Properties by Wm. W. Bensen.

FOREWORD

In writing this Pageant, to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the first permanent settlement of the site of Albany, I have chosen only the events leading up to the founding of the city. No history of Albany as a whole has been attempted. I have therefore termed it "A Pageant of the Founding of the City of Albany," rather than "The Pageant of Albany," which it is not. Within the limitations set me the greater pageant could not be attempted. Yet because the scope is limited, I have been able to depict in more detail a life which is distinctly different from that of any other settlement in America. Nowhere else have the Indian and the white man lived in such unbroken peace and harmony. Nowhere else in this country, did a colony thrive under a purely feudal system. These unique features of this settlement I have tried to portray with fidelity, in a series of little genre pictures.

I desire to express my deep appreciation to Mr. A. J. F. van Laer, archivist of New York, for his ever ready information and cordial assistance on all historical matter in the Pageant; Mr. A. C. Parker for writing the Indian scene and directing it; Mrs. William Gorham Rice who first asked me to direct the Pageant, and to whose initiative is due in no small measure its production; and the Committees, Cast and Chorus for their whole hearted co-operation.

VIRGINIA TANNER

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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THE FOUNDING OF THE CITY OF ALBANY

EPISODE I

THE SETTLEMENT

SCENE 1

THE ERA OF THE RED MAN*

I

(Spirit of Earth Mother Prepares the Earth for the Coming of Man.)

EARTH MOTHER

(Comes with a pouch of seed and a dove.)

This fair paradise beneath the sky rivals my celestial homeland. Behold its verdant splendors; the gods have lived here! Here shall I scatter seed of food plants, here shall I fill the trees with song birds, and all the woodlands with game. The streams shall teem with fishes.

(Scatters seed and makes a circle about the stage, going center and releasing dove.)

Oh my brother, the Sun, behold this fair land and shine upon it. Carry to the four directions the message of the Earth Mother that her children may come hither for an abiding place.

(She invokes the four directions, turning to East, South, West, and North respectively, and calling to each.)

My children, this earth is thine. My feet have rested here. The rocks are firm. Here shall dwell the tribes of the Men of Men, the noble Mahikan.

(Song invoking the Four Winds.)

(Exit.)

II

(The Coming of the Four Forerunners.)

HUNTER

(Rushes upon stage with drawn bow and arrow. Looks about as he pauses. Replaces arrow in quiver. Walks around.)

Long have I sought an abiding place and some strange call has drawn me hither: No fairer spot have I ever seen, and I am constrained to believe that our Earth Mother has hallowed it.

(Walks around, musing.)

Here shall I set my lodge.

(Goes to one side and calls.)

Wo-hac, Wo-hac, Wo-hac!

* Written and directed by Arthur C. Parker.

WARRIOR

(Rushes upon stage.)

Hail my friend of the bow! What may your call portend?

HUNTER

Look about you my friend of conquests. Behold a land so wondrous fair it shall be said the gods have dwelt here!

WARRIOR

(Looks about with evident pleasure.)

Friend of the bow, this is the fairest land I have ever seen. Here shall dwell the tribe of the Men of Men. 'Tis for such a land that I would fight all foes. Let us kindle a fire and invite Ho-chee-no-gah, the talker with the gods to come and make an incense.

(Calls.)

Ho-chee-no-gah, Ho-chee-no-gah, appear!

MEDICINE MAN

(Strides to center with dignity.)

Hail my friends of weapons! What important thing calls me from my meditations?

WARRIOR

Look about you, my friend of dreams and invocations. Behold a land so wondrous fair that it shall be said the gods have dwelt here.

MEDICINE MAN

(Looks about with evident pleasure.)

My friends of the hunt and war trail, this is the fairest land I have ever seen. Here shall dwell the tribe of the Men of Men. 'Tis for such a land that I would invoke the power of the gods. Here shall you two build a fire and here shall I offer an incense as a symbol of our pleasure and gratitude. Then, if the omen is good, shall we call the daughter of the Earth Mother.

(Hunter and Warrior build and light fire with bow drill.)

(Medicine Man makes an incense and lights his pipe invoking the four directions.)

(Calls.)

Daughter of Earth, appear. Daughter of Earth appear. Daughter of Earth appear, Oh you who are Yea-go-wa-ney, appear!

DAUGHTER OF EARTH

(Appears.)

Hail my three friends, what of importance calls me hither? Know you not that I was busy with my planting?

MEDICINE MAN

Look about you, Daughter, whom the skies have blessed. Behold a land so wondrous fair that it shall be said the gods have dwelt here!

DAUGHTER OF EARTH

(Looks about with evident pleasure.)

My friends of the hunt, the trail and the altar, this is the fairest land I have ever seen. Here shall dwell the tribe of the Men of Men. 'Tis for such a

land that I would bring forth my children that they might inherit a paradise.

HUNTER

It is then agreed by all who have seen this land that it shall be possessed by the tribe of the Men of Men. Let us pledge our minds and strength to hold it.

(All go center and the men stand back to back with arms linked.)

ALL

We three of the tribe of the Men of Men before you, O Daughter of Earth, pledge our minds and our strength to hold this fair land. It shall be ours.
(Break and go right.)

MEDICINE MAN

Woman who art the Daughter of Earth, bid your children come forth to this fair land. It is the inheritance of the tribe of the Men of Men.

DAUGHTER OF EARTH

Children of Earth, appear!

May your feet be swift,
May your arms be strong,
May your hearts be true!

Here a homeland awaits the Men of Men.

(Procession of Warriors, Women and Children marches to rear of stage.)

LEADER

Who calls the tribe of the Men of Men? Who calls us hither from our long weary search for a new homeland? We would not be turned aside.

DAUGHTER OF EARTH

I, Daughter of Earth, whose father is the Sun, have called you hither. Look about you. Behold a land so wondrous fair that it shall be said the gods have dwelt here.

(People look about and give joyful ejaculations.)

LEADER

Oh, Fathers of the race, this is the fairest land we have ever seen. Here shall dwell the tribes of the Men of Men, but behold when we set up our wigwams, what shall we call this sun-blessed paradise?

DAUGHTER OF EARTH

It shall be known as Ma-hi-ka-na-ki, and you shall now set the metes and bounds. Let your chiefs follow the medicine man and proclaim the boundaries.

FIRE KEEPER

(Stirs fire and sets kettle upon it.)

Here shall we establish our abiding place, here shall be our homes. May the sun shine upon the homeland of the Mahikan-aki!

TRIBAL SINGER

(Steps forward and sings tribal song facing Fire Keeper at the central fire.)

MEDICINE MAN

(Leads four chiefs to posts at four corners of stage and posts them one by one. In the meantime the tribe chants its song of conquest.)

(At first post.)

Where lies the first rock beyond which our land is not?

FIRST CHIEF

Behold the great rock of the north set against the waters of the Long Lake of the North Trail; within this rock toward our Council Fire at Schodack the land shall be ours.

(Lights fire and casts on incense.)

MEDICINE MAN

(Goes to second post.)

Where lies this rock, beyond which our land is not?

SECOND CHIEF

Behold the rock of the East set against the mountains of Wabun Wadju. Within this rock toward our Council Fire at Schodack the land shall be ours.

(Lights fire.)

MEDICINE MAN

(Goes to third post.)

Where lies the third rock beyond which our land is not?

THIRD CHIEF

Behold the great rock of the south set in the midst of kinsmen. It is upon the Mahikannituck and where it is it shall be. Within this rock toward our Council Fire at Schodack the land shall be ours.

(Lights fire.)

MEDICINE MAN

(Goes to fourth post.)

Where lies this rock beyond which our land is not?

FOURTH CHIEF

Behold the rock of the west set in the waters of Magwahittuck, the daughter of the Mahikannituck. Within this rock toward our Council Fire at Schodack the land shall be ours.

DAUGHTER OF EARTH

(Dances around, throwing flowers at each boundary post. Goes center and proclaims:)

In the name of Earth Mother, for the benefit of the tribes of the Men of Men, now and to come, I, Daughter of Earth, lay claim to this fair land and name it Ma-hi-ka-na-ki!

(Plants Banner.)

ALL

Hail Mahikanaki!

WARRIOR

Because where men dwell men must be secure, I pledge to this fair land the power of my arms and dedicate my strength to Mahikanaki.

HUNTER

Because where men dwell they must eat, I pledge service to this fair land as the bringer of food and raiment to all the people who dwell in Mahikanaki.

MEDICINE MAN

Let all the warriors of the tribe of the Men of Men come forth and dance joyfully upon the soil that now is ours; for, because the Great Spirit ruleth the universe, he will not fail to bless the land of Mahikanaki.

(Dancers form line and dance about central fire. Drummers and rattlers at center beat time and singer chants.)

MEDICINE MAN

Depart now all ye tribes, men who are Men of Men. Rear your camps and villages, plant your fields and make a home for your children.

LEADER

Tribesmen! Assemble! Ready, march!

(Tribe goes off stage, singing tribal song.)

(Two attendants remain for each principal character.)

AKOLAKI

(Comes forth from hiding.)

Hail my three brethren, I have been a silent observer. O-ha, I have many beaver to dispense! O-ha, I have much wampum peag and subtle charms that make gods tremble! True enough this is a fair world and it shall be thine. I ask but one boon, my brothers, and you shall then be rich, powerful and immortal.

MEDICINE MAN

Oh you who were not hidden, we know you not, but since you have gifts to offer what may you ask in return?

AKOLAKI

I ask only that I may depart with the Earth Daughter and take her to my country. I will well repay you. Behold my rich gifts. With these I buy the Earth Daughter for myself and the race of the future shall be mine.

(Grabs Earth Daughter with wild laugh.)

Come, come, and it shall be said that I have rewarded those who gave you into my keeping.

(Tries to rush off.)

Ha, Ha, my children shall swarm the earth to curse it.

WARRIOR

(Rushes forward and halts Akolaki with a spear.)

Hold, not so fast, not so fast! We who are Men of Men are not to be bribed with gifts. What we hold good and of the heart we do not sell. No unbidden guest may trade with us, and none shall touch Earth Daughter and live. I would know who you are.

MEDICINE MAN

(Rushes forward and unmasks Akolaki.)

Behold the spirit of Evil, the father of failure, lies, disease, vice, and ignorance. Monster, take back your gifts, they are not for us. Know you that the land of the Mahikanaki shall be blessed by opportunity, success, truth, health, virtue, and intelligence. Here shall dwell a happy people and you, Oh unbidden guest, shall not be among them. Depart.

(Warrior and Hunter drive out the cringing Akolaki.)

DAUGHTER OF EARTH

Oh Men of Men, as thou art, so shall be all men who come here to dwell when you have passed into another realm. Daughter of Earth and her daughters until the final day shall have no fear, for my watchful spirit like an eagle shall hover over them and protect them.

EARTH MOTHER

(Returns.)

My daughter, well hast thou spoken, for the land of Mahikanaki shall ever be the land of noblest womanhood. Far down the future ages I see new races of the human kind, and even now across the great sunrise sea beyond the land of Wabun-aki, strange pale faced races are building great canoes, and when they shall have conquered superstition and fear of self-created monsters, they shall swarm to the land of Mahikanaki.

(Takes Earth Daughter's hand.)

MEDICINE MAN

(Covers fire. Lifts up arms and calls.)

Oh Men of Men here to dwell for here are rare gifts for the taking. Here for a time shall dwell the Mahikan people, children of the red race, but soon shall come another people and all our council fires shall be extinguished, and we shall be remembered only for the names we have planted on hill and valley, on stream and waterfall. My colleagues, we too must depart and do our work for the world.

(Exit chanting.)

EARTH MOTHER

(Standing at extinguished fire, drops flowers upon the ashes.)

EARTH DAUGHTER

(Sings farewell song.)

EARTH MOTHER AND EARTH DAUGHTER

(Clasp hands.)

(Exit.)

SCENE 2

THE FRENCH FUR-TRADERS

1540

(There is a sound in the distance of sailors singing. As the voices come nearer, the words of an Old French boat song are plainly heard.

A group of French fur-traders comes ashore to establish a trading-post on the Grande River which will be accessible to the Indians of that region. They raise the banner of King Francis I, and beneath it arrange their wares enticingly.

The Maquas are at first afraid of the white men, the first they have ever seen, and run away. But as the strangers are evidently friendly, they creep back from their hiding places, curious to know what is happening.

The French show them strings of beads and pieces of bright red cloth, and make them understand by signs that they will exchange them for the fine beaver skins which the Indians wear. The Indians take off their fur garments and put on the coats of woven cloth, and hang the beads about their necks, with every mark of satisfaction and delight.

Eager to gain more of these strange European adornments, they bring from the "long-house" the finest peltries of their stores, which the French as eagerly tie in packs and carry away.)

SCENE 3

HENRY HUDSON

1609

(The Ship's Carpenter and four English and Dutch Sailors come ashore from De Halve Maen which is anchored on the river. He comes upon a band of Indians including "an old Savage, a Governour of the Countrey * * * who made him good cheere," bringing little presents of grapes, pumpkins, tobacco and corn, in exchange for which the men fling them a few baubles.*)

CARPENTER

(Staring about and finally deciding upon a certain tree.)

Cut down that tree John; the Half Moon needs a new fore-yard.

(The Sailors run off and cut down a tree which they begin to strip and fashion into the new fore-yard. Henry Hudson, Master-of-the-ship, comes to them and watches the work.)

HENRY HUDSON

When think you the fore-yard will be finished, Carpenter?

CARPENTER

Right soon Master Henry Hudson! The wood is good, 'tis a land "as pleasant with Grasse and Flowers, and goodly Trees" as ever I saw.

HENRY HUDSON

A pleasant land enough, but I durst not trust the savages.

CARPENTER

They seem harmless. "The people of the Countrey cam flocking," making shrew of love, and gave us Tabacco and Indian Wheat" and "brought us Grapes and Pompions, which we bought for trifles."

HENRY HUDSON

'Tis well! We will return their courtesies with "so much Wine and Aqua Vitae that they" be "all merrie," "to trie . . . whether they" have "any treacherie in them."

(A Sailor pours out a large cup of wine from a jug which he carries, and gives it to an Indian. He drinks the wine. Again and again it is filled and passed among the Indians until the jug is empty. Meantime the Explorers watch them warily.)

AN INDIAN

(Addressing Henry Hudson makes "an oration.")

Kla-how-ya Til-li-kum: Nezaika kwan kopa nanitch mazaika. Mamoak okoak wikoam okook illahe, mamook okook olapitsky yahwa klosh, eskum mickamuk konamox nezaika. Konawe klosh hyu tee hee, maika hyas tyee.

(The Indians bring a "great platter full of Venison dressed by themselves; and they caused him to eat with them, then they made him reverence, and departed." As the Dutch and English are still seated on the ground after the feast, a loud call is heard in the distance. The men jump up.)

* From "The Third Voyage of Master Henry Hudson" by Robert Juet 1610.

HENRY HUDSON

The boat has returned!

(Robert Juet and four sailors run in.)

How now, Juet! Your report. Did they find the northwest passage to Cathay?

ROBERT JUET

(Saluting.)

Captain Hudson, I have found this to report. This morning the "2 and twentieth was faire weather . . . our Masters Mate and foure more of the companie went up with our Boat to sound the River higher up."

HENRY HUDSON

Yes, yes, Man, I know! But did they find the northwest passage to China?

ROBERT JUET

"This night . . . our boat returned from sounding of the River, and found it to be at an end for shipping to goe in." They "had been up 8 or 9 leagues, and found but seven foot water, and unconstant soundings." This river is not a passage to the west.

HENRY HUDSON

What an end to this long voyage! What news to give the Amsterdam Chamber!

ROBERT JUET

And what a loss to us, when the States-General offers twenty-five thousand guilders to those who shall discover the northeast route to China and Japan!

HENRY HUDSON

I do not think of that. I only know that I have failed. Nay we all have failed. For now I know there is no passage to the West at all. This land far greater than I thought, stretches a vast barrier, impassable. I must return to tell the Company* that their ships can never sail towards the riches of the East. To get return from all my voyages, they needs must pack their boats with traders and settlers to traffic with the savage, and never hope to lade them with the treasures of Cathay.

(He turns broodingly away. The Sailors follow wrangling over their spoils.)

SCENE 4

THE DUTCH TRADERS

1614-1617

(The Dutch Traders at Fort Nassau arrange their merchandise, hatchets, knives, kettles, cloth and beads, to tempt the Indians when they come for the day's trade. As they wait, two of them idle away the time by playing tick-tack, resting their board on a keg of trinkets. Others sing "Een liedje van de zee" to which one of the Sailors dances a Dutch Hornpipe.

Presently a number of Indians in full regalia, Sachems from the League of the Iroquois, the Mohicans, Minniswicks and the Lenni-Lenapees appear.

Jacob Jacobsen Eelkens, Commander of Fort Nassau, rises to receive them.)

* Dutch East India Company.

JACOB EELKENS

I see you do not come today for trading.

SACHEM

We come to hold a peace council with you.

(The Indian Chiefs arrange themselves formally. Eelkens motions the Sailors to leave their game and join the council.)

JACOB EELKENS

I am ready to hold council with you.

SACHEM

I honor you. The Warriors that are with me likewise honor you. We have found you our friend. What I say is the voice of the Five Nations. Hear what they say. Open your ears to what they speak. Put all evil from your heart as we have from ours.

JACOB EELKENS

My ears are open to what you say. I have put all evil from my heart.

SACHEM

Now then let us smoke the pipe together.

JACOB EELKENS

We will smoke the pipe with you.

(The Chief gives him the calumet and the two smoke.)

SACHEM

This is as a covenant of peace between us. Now hold in your hand with mine the wampum belt.

JACOB EELKENS

I will hold the peace-belt with you.

(The Chief holds out the belt of wampum and Eelkens puts his hand upon it.)

SACHEM

This is as a sign of union between my people and yours. In token that this peace we now have made may be everlasting, let us cause two hatchets to be buried. One in behalf of us, the League of the Iroquois, the Mohicans, the Minniswicks, and the Lenni-Lenapees; the other in behalf of your nation.

JACOB EELKENS

I will bury the hatchet with you upon this spot. And that everlasting peace shall be kept between us, I will erect a church upon this spot, so never may the hatchet be dug up.

(The Dutch dig a hole, and solemnly the Sachem and Eelkens deposit the weapons in the ground.)

SACHEM

I assure you in the name of the Five Nations, that our warriors shall remain quiet on their mats, that they shall never dig up the hatchet till you, the white men from over the seas, shall attack the country which the Great Spirit has given to our ancestors.

(The Indians solemnly withdraw. The Sailors pick up their merchandise and return to the Fort.)

SCENE 5

THE FIRST SETTLERS

1624

(Bastiaen Jansen Krol, Comforter of the Sick, and Captain Cornelis May, the first boat load of men and women from the Nieu Nederlandt, to land on the shores of the Hudson River. They are the Dutch and the Walloons,* refugees in Holland from the Spanish Netherlands, who have come to make the first permanent settlement on the Hudson River. They bring in this first boat load many household possessions and implements of agriculture.)

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

This is to be our new home!

(He greets each one in kindly fashion.)

CORNELIS JACOBSEN MAY

'Twas a weary voyage.

CATALINE TRICO

Pray God we find a pleasant haven in this wilderness away from the miseries of our Fatherland.

(They stand with bowed heads, taking this first moment of their landing very solemnly.)

CORNELIS JANSEN KROL

(Repeating as a prayer the words of an old Dutch hymn.)

"Lord, who has spread the wide heavens overhead

Who all that liveth with bounty hast fed,

Who by thy power the ocean's fury stillest

And e'er controullest all things as Thou wilt,

To Thee on high we send our cry

From many a fearful heart;

For e'er in life or deadly strife

Our shield and hope Thou art."

CORNELIS JACOBSEN MAY

Take us to the Fort, man, let the women rest on land a bit after the long voyage.

(Krol leading, they go toward the Fort, the sailors carrying their goods.)

1625

(Cataline Trico sits by her baby's cradle. Joris Jansen de Rapelje, her husband, stands watching them. An Indian woman kneels by the child.† The words of the old Dutch lullaby "Slaap, kindje, slaap" are sung as Cataline gently rocks the little cradle.)

* "The Dutch called Walloons, or strangers, those inhabitants of the Southern Netherlands who spoke French instead of Flemish. . . . Spanish persecution drove many Walloons into Holland."

† Sarah, the first child born at Fort Orange, from the Ryerson Genealogy.

1626

(A band of Mohawks in skirmish formation creep along the ground until they are in the cover of the trees. There in ambuscade they await their foe.)

The Mahikans, with their allies, Van Krieckebeeck, Commander of Fort Orange, and six soldiers of the garrison, march in.)

AN INDIAN

Our people are at war. The Maquas are our bitter foe.

DANIEL VAN KRIECKEBEECK

March this way, we will soon overtake your enemy. We shall prevail!

(They march in open formation unaware that the enemy is in hiding so near. Suddenly as they approach the ambuscade, the Maquas shoot. Three of the Dutch soldiers fall and are dragged away in triumph by the victorious Maquas. The rest run in all directions. Van Krieckebeeck is shot and falls dying.)

When the Maquas have wholly disappeared with the bodies of the slain soldiers to celebrate their victory in barbaric fashion, the Dutch return, searching for the body of their wounded commander.)

CATALINE TRICO

He is there!

(She runs to the spot and lifts the dying man in her arms.)

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

My Commander! You are hurt!

DANIEL VAN KRIECKEBEECK

Good friend — good Comforter of the Sick.

(He tries to stand but falls back into the arms of Krol.)

I am dying!

(They support him between them on the ground. He holds up his hand.)

My ring — send my ring and my few trinkets to my wife in Holland. Tell her —

(He falls back dead. The women kneel weeping about the body.)

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

We must send the women away. It is no longer safe for them. They shall go down the river to Manhattan.

(The men pick up the body of Van Krieckebeeck, and bear it away for burial.)

(The Chorus sings the Old Dutch Battle Song, "Bergen op Zoom.")

DANCE INTERLUDE

DANSE MACABRE *

(Death in the guise of Civilization comes to Red Men of the Mahicanita River.

First he offers them fair friendship, and they respond to his advances; then the first gift of Civilization to the Indian, the wine cup, which they eagerly seize. In his company also, comes the plague, and they are prostrated. With his last gift, the white man's weapons, he deals them destruction.

When his Dance of Death is done, but a weakened few are left among the mighty host upon the banks of the Mahicanita.)

* Music by Saint-Saens.

EPISODE II
FOUNDING OF THE CITY

SCENE 1
PURCHASE OF THE LAND

1630

(Two working men bring in a rough wooden table and stool, then run off to get the merchandise from the Fort. Bastiaen Jansen Krol, Commis, Dirck Cornelissen, Onder-commis and two soldiers come in. Five Indian Chiefs and a few Indians follow them. The men kneel by the chests of goods ready to open them when bidden.)

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

Greetings! Oh Chiefs of the Long House!

THE FIVE CHIEFS

Let the Sun, as long as he shall endure, always shine upon us in Friendship.

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

I have called you here to this place of conference, to make a purchase. My Master across the seas desires to buy your land. So he has written.

(He signifies that the onder-commis shall read and he steps forward with the document which he reads.)

DIRCK CORNELISSEN

"January 12, 1630:—Laus Deo, the 12th of January 1630 in Amsterdam. Instructions from Kiliaen van Rensselaer for Bastiaen Janssen Crol, commis at Fort Orange. . . . Dirk Cornelissz, his onder-commis. . . .

First, Crol shall try to buy the lands hereafter named for the said Rensselaer, from the Mahijcans, Macquaas or such other nations as have any claim to them, giving them no occasion for discontent, but treating them with all courtesy and discretion.

And what he shall give to the said nations in consideration of the aforesaid purchase, he shall take according to the order of the company, from its merchandise, . . . The limits he shall extend as far as possible, as high above Fort Orange and as far inland as they will in any way cede, equally below Fort Orange, . . . and as far inland as possible.

Having bought the land, that he convene not only the respective chiefs but all the people, in order to make the payment in the presence of them all . . . to the island of the Manhates, to confirm the purchase before the Director Peter Minuit and council."

I have declared myself as Patroon of the North River above and below the Fort.

Kiliaen van Rensselaer.*

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

You have heard.

KOTTAMACK

We have heard.

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

Do you desire to sell?

(The Indians speak together apart.)

* From the Van Rensselaer Bowier Mss.

KOTTAMACK

Yes. We are willing.

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

Will you sign?

KOTTAMACK

We will sign.

(Each Indian steps to the table and makes his mark, speaking his name.
KOTTAMACK; NAWANEIT; ABANTZEENE; SAGISKAWA;
KANAMOACK.)

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

Bring the merchandise in payment.

(The men spread a huge red cloth on the ground in front of the Indians. They place the two chests upon it, which they open and display the merchandise—hatchets, knives, kettles, mirrors, beads, “certain quantities of duffels,” etc. The Indian Chiefs watch stolidly. The Woman and Child finger the goods excitedly, and deck themselves in the finery. The young Indians repack the chests.)

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL

(Rising.)

I command you, Sachems of these lands, and all your people, to convene before the Director, Peter Minuit and Council of New Netherland, on the island of Manhatas, in Fort Amsterdam, August 13, 1630. There under the jurisdiction of their High Mightinesses, the Lords States General of the United Netherlands and the Chartered West India Company, and Chamber of Amsterdam, you will convey by title of sale, the parcels of land today specified, to the real and actual possession of the Honorable Kiliaen van Rensselaer of Amsterdam, Patroon of the Settlement.

(The Chiefs depart, followed by the Indians, bearing the chests of merchandise.

The Commis orders the Patroon's flag to be raised.

The CHORUS sings the Old Dutch national air “Wilhelmus van Nassouwe.”)

SCENE 2

ENGLISH INFRINGEMENT OF TRADE

1634

(Jacob Jacobsen Eelkens trudges in, his English Seamen bearing heavy loads. They set up a tent, over which they raise the English flag, and display their wares. The Indians flock to him greeting him as their old friend.

Hans Jorissen Honthum and a few men from Fort Orange view the scene in amazement and chagrin.)

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM

(Pompously.)

What are you doing here?

JACOB EELKENS

(Jauntily.)

As you can easily see, Heer Commis—trading!

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM

Trading! By what right do you from the English ship William, trade upon the shores of the Dutch!

JACOB EELKENS

By right of trading upon English ground.

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM

This is not English ground. This land belongs to the Dutch West India Company by right of discovery of Henry Hudson and grants from the Prince of Orange.

JACOB EELKENS

This land belongs to Great Britain, by right of discovery of Sebastian Cabot, as well as grants to Sir Walter Raleigh from her gracious Majesty, Queen Elizabeth.

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM

(Losing his temper.)

Be gone from here!

(Eelkens laughs at him.)

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM

Be gone from here or I will put you out!

JACOB EELKENS

(Tauntingly.)

Try it.

(His men come up to him.)

We outnumber you two to one.

(The Indians straggle over to him.)

And the Indians are my friends.

(He goes back to his profitable trading.)

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM

(To his companions.)

He is right! They outnumber us two to one, and the Indians are his friends. If I had Governor Van Twiller's power, I would have sent the ship *Soutberg* after him and hauled him down the river, and driven him from it until he brought another commission than a custom house license! Bring in our own goods!

(The Dutch run off and return with a Dutch tent and a Dutch flag, and Dutch goods for trading. A few men, women and children from Rensselaerswyck watch the scene with lively curiosity.)

We will outbid the Englishman.

(Eelkens continues to do a brisk trade with the Indians for "bever, martin, and other peltrie." No one goes to the Dutch tent. They are finally driven to call out their wares and terms of trade like street hawkers.)

DUTCHMAN

A mengel of brandy for two beaver skins!

(The Indians waver and stand between the two tents.)

JACOB EELKENS

A mengel of brandy for one beaver skin!

(The Indians return to Eelkens.)

DUTCHMAN

I will trade a firelock for ten beaver skins.

JACOB EELKENS

A firelock for nine beaver skins!

DUTCHMAN

For eight!

JACOB EELKENS

For six!

(The Indians trade with Eelkens.)

DUTCHMAN

A keg of gunpowder for four beaver skins.

(The Indians again go to him.)

JACOB EELKENS

A keg of gunpowder for three beaver skins!

(The Indians return to him.)

DUTCHMAN

(Vainly calling his wares, and following the Indians over to Eelkens' tent.)

Good cloth—heavy blankets—those are but half weight!

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM

This is not to be endured!

A BOY

Heer Director, soldiers from Fort Amsterdam are coming!

(A bugle sounds in the distance. There marches in a small company of soldiers from Fort Amsterdam. They set upon the English traders, overturn the tent and scatter their goods. The Dutchmen, gaining courage, "in their rage beat some of the Indians." In the scrimmage Eelkens and his English sailors are run out of the Colony followed by half the population of Rensselaerswyck. The elated Trumpeter of Fort Orange, blows the while jeeringly and loudly upon his trumpet.)

SCENE 3

MEGAPOLENSIS PREACHING TO THE INDIANS

FATHER JOGUES

1643

(It is a Sunday morning. The Rev. Johannes Megapolensis, as was sometimes his wont, goes outside the settlement of Rensselaerswyck to preach to the Indians. He is accompanied by his wife and their four children, the Commis of the colony Arent van Curler the Indians' friend,* and a number of men and women from the Settlement. As they sing, very beautifully, one of the Psalms, in Dutch, a few Indians straggle in. They sit on the ground and smoke their pipes throughout the service. After the singing is over the Pastor speaks † to the Indians.)

REV. JOHANNES MEGAPOLENSIS

When I first came among you, my brothers, you stood aloof. You would say to me, what are you doing that you stand up there alone, and make so many words, whilst none of the rest may speak?

And I answered, I am admonishing the Christians that they must not steal, nor get drunk, nor commit murder.

* A man of great influence with the Indians. The Indians for years after addressed the white Governors as "Corlaer," because they said it was the name of a man highly esteemed by them.

† From the letters and writings of Rev. Johannes Megapolensis.

Now that I am acquainted with your language, and have visited your country, and your castles, I can preach the same to you. I can admonish you that you too ought not to do these things.

We have had an Indian here with us for about two years. He can read and write Dutch very well. We have instructed him in the fundamental principles of our religion, and he answers publicly in church, and can repeat the Commandments.

You too can learn what he has done. You too can make the responses, and sing the Psalms.

(The people sing again, the Indians joining them "singing very sweetly.")

(Suddenly the service is interrupted by a group of Indians who drag in a prisoner. They surround the little figure of a man in the robes of a French Jesuit priest. The man is cruelly bound and his captors handle him roughly. The people are in terror at the interruption and the hostile attitude of the strange savages. But van Curler goes to them quietly and unafraid.)

ARENT VAN CURLER

Who have you there?

A SAVAGE

A captive.

ARENT VAN CURLER

Free him. I will answer for him to the amount of three hundred livres ransom.

(He makes his way through the savages to the prisoner.)

Your name, Father?

FATHER ISAAC JOGUES

Father Jogues.

ANTONIA SLAGHBOOM

Father Jogues, the French Jesuit!

(She and the Pastor's wife lead him tenderly away from the savages. He sinks exhausted on the rough bench as his bonds are loosened. The women sink on their knees sobbing in pity as they see his tortured hands. The Pastor's wife takes off her cap and tears it in pieces to bandage the maimed and bleeding fingers.)

ARENT VAN CURLER

Why have you done this?

A SAVAGE

He is a witch-doctor. When he passes through our villages he leaves sickness behind him.

[The Indians go away.]

FATHER ISAAC JOGUES

We met "a band of Indians who fell upon us from both sides with their clubs in such fury that I sank to the ground. How long they spent their fury upon me, He alone knows, for whose love and sake it is delightful and glorious thus to suffer." *

REV. JOHANNES MEGAPOLENSIS

Almighty God, we thank thee for this day that has delivered this zealous missionary from martyrdom.

(The people sing a prayer of thanksgiving, "Wilt heden nu treden.")

With infinite care the Domine helps the injured man to his own house across the river.)

* From Father Jogues' letters.

SCENE 4

THE COMPANY AND RENSSELAERSWYCK

1648

(The people of Rensselaerswyck gather in honor of the first visit of the Governor of New Netherland, Peter Stuyvesant. They mass about the flag staff of the Patroon's emblem, draw in a small cannon in preparation for firing a salute. Kegs of beer and presents of food are also made ready.)

At length, to the sound of drums, Peter Stuyvesant and his military escort arrive.

A salute is fired from the Heer Patroon's cannon. The people cheer loyally.)

PETER STUYVESANT

I desire to speak with the Patroon's Director, Brant Aertsen van Slichtenhorst.

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

(Coming forward from the crowd. He takes off his hat and bows with great courtesy.)

Heer Governor Peter Stuyvesant, in behalf of my noble Patroon Johan van Rensselaer, I make you welcome to his colony.

(The people cheer. Stuyvesant bows hurriedly to the people but is desirous of getting to the business in hand. He keeps his hat on throughout the scene.)

PETER STUYVESANT

Heer van Slichtenhorst, I have come upon the Company's business, which is my first duty.

(Van Slichtenhorst bows again. The people listen.)

Your attitude disturbs me. Yes—enrages me.

(He stumps up and down working himself into the promised rage.)

My proclamations are disregarded, my orders flouted, my authority held in contempt.

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

Your complaints are unjust, Sir. I have more reason, on behalf of my Patroon, to complain against you.

PETER STUYVESANT

(Exploding.)

Complaints against me!

(Going up to van Slichtenhorst nose to nose, and wagging his finger at him.)

Did you, or did you not, disregarding my authority, convey lots, and authorize the erection of buildings, in the immediate vicinity of Fort Orange?

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

(Quietly.)

I did.

PETER STUYVESANT

Did you not in so doing, utterly destroy the security of the Fort, and disregard the Company's sovereignty?

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

I did not.

(The people murmur derisively.)

The Fort stands on the Patroon's soil. The Company has no jurisdiction beyond its four walls.

PETER STUYVESANT

The Fort is independent of your Patroon. Its jurisdiction extends over a radius of six hundred paces.

I command you, on authority from their High Mightinesses, as their representative in New Netherland, not to build a house within range of cannon shot of the Fort.

Van Brugge!

(Van Brugge steps hastily forward.)

I order you to destroy all buildings already within that compass.

(In a lower tune.)

Arrest the man if he offers opposition.

(Van Brugge salutes and stands still. Stuyvesant stumps back to where his soldiers are standing, quite satisfied with himself. Without more ado, they set about drawing beer from the kegs, eating the victuals provided, and otherwise refreshing themselves after business well done.)

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

(Now really roused in his turn, addresses the people of the colony.)
Is this aggression justified? This soil belongs to the Patroon. It has never been questioned until that man——

(Here he gesticulates wildly toward Stuyvesant.)

that man seeks to oust the orphan heir, and appropriate the soil to himself.

(The crowd cheers. Then realizing that the Director is embarking upon a speech, some of the men lift him high upon their shoulders in lieu of a rostrum.)

As for the "renowned fortress, men can go in and out of it by night as well as day. I have been more than six months in the Colony and the nearest resident to the Fort, and yet I have never been able to discover a single person carrying a sword, a musket, or a pike, or have I heard or seen a drum beat, except when the Director-General himself visited it" upon this occasion.

And here am I, Director van Slichtenhorst, representative of the infant Patroon, enjoined from erecting even a hog pen upon the patroon's own land. Yes, and he orders the destruction of our very homes, by cannon shot from his Fort.

(The crowd, which has repeatedly voiced its sentiments during the speech, now becomes threatening. Van Brugge sees the attitude, runs to the table where the soldiers are drinking. In some kind of military formation he marches them towards the angry colonists.)

CAREL VAN BRUGGE

I have orders to tear down your houses!

(His soldiers yell at van Slichtenhorst. Deputy Andries de Vos goes forward as if to defend van Slichtenhorst. The soldiers jostle and push him rudely. A band of Maquas who have been attracted by the big gathering surround van Brugge and his soldiers angrily.)

INDIAN

Does "Wooden Leg" wish to tear down the houses which are to shelter us in the storm and cold of winter?

CAREL VAN BRUGGE

I summon you, Director van Slichtenhorst, to appear with a copy of your commission at Fort Amsterdam, by the first sailing vessel, where you will be further informed of the complaint against you.

(The soldiers waxing riotous, fire off their muskets. At this disturbance a large crowd of armed Indians join the mob. The colonists are terrified at the impending danger.)

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

(Stepping between the Indians and the Soldiers.)

Go home, my friends. All will be well. Go home, I say.

INDIAN

When "Wooden Leg's Dogs" are gone, we go.

(The soldiers follow van Brugge and march off to the sound of the drum.)

(The Indians disperse peaceably. The Colonists, wildly excited over the apparent success of their Director, carry him off on their shoulders, cheering him as they go.)

(The CHORUS sing a Dutch Battle Song "Waer dat men sich.")

SCENE 5

THE MARRIAGE AT THE MANOR HOUSE

1650

(Servants and slaves are preparing the main room of the Patroon's House, for the wedding festivities of Margareta van Slichtenhorst, daughter of the Director, and Philip Pieterz Schuyler, first of his name in New Netherland. They arrange the bride's chair where she is to sit in state in the middle of the room, and place the chairs for the bridesmaids on either side.)

Then Margareta enters with her bridesmaids, speelmanisjes, and Aeltje Lansing, her brother's betrothed.)

MARGARETA

My crown, my bride's crown, who has my crown?

AELTJE LANSING

I have your crown, Grietje.

(She puts on the bride's crown. Everyone looks at her with little murmurs of admiration.)

There, now sit on your throne.

(Margareta sits with her bridesmaids on either side of her.)

The wedding crown, Angola, put it in place.

(The two negro servants hang the wedding crown of flowers over the throne, while the girls clap their hands with delight at the effect, then spoil the formality of it all by running to kiss the bride.)

Then her father enters, Gerrit her brother, Gerrit van Wenckum her cousin, and Jan van Twiller one of the Commissioners of the Colony.)

GERRIT

(Facetiously.)

The bride sits in state! Behold!

MARGARETA

(Jumping up and rushing to her father and kissing him.)

Father!

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

I have brought you the wedding chest, daughter.

(Two servants bring in a large carved Dutch bride's chest. Margareta eagerly opens it, and holds up with delight some of the lovely things it contains, brocade, linen, embroidery, pieces of silver etc. and lastly a coat of heavy silver brocade.)

Your mother's wedding coat, my daughter. You are to wear it today.

(The bridesmaids help her to put it on. Van Slichtenhorst stands off to look at her. There is a little moment of silence, then he kisses her.)

AELTJE LANSING

Oh! Grietje, here comes Master Schuyler.

(Margareta rushes back to her throne, and all wait demurely for the bridegroom to enter.)

GERRIT

The bridegroom!

(Philip Schuyler bows to the company, then rather awkwardly as if he did not know exactly what to do, goes to Margareta. She holds out her hand to him. He takes it, after a little hesitation, drops on his knees and kisses it.)

PHILIP SCHUYLER

My wedding gift, Margareta.

(She jumps up again, her formality quite forgotten. He gives her a beautifully wrought silver casket, which she opens, and takes out a Dutch chatelaine of beaten silver on a chain, which she clasps around her waist.)

MARGARETA

A chatelaine! How beautiful!

PHILIP SCHUYLER

Every Dutch wife must have a chatelaine, you know.

MARGARETA

Here is my gift to you.

(She hangs about his neck a little miniature of herself on a long ribbon. He gazes at it a moment, then raises it to his lips.)

JAN VAN TWILLER

Mon cousin, do not forget God's pence.

PHILIP SCHUYLER

I have it.

(Giving Margareta a wedding pence with a motto.)

MARGARETA

My wedding pence! The Motto

(reading):

"If you will there is the chatelaine and the pence, if you won't you can return it."

(They all laugh.)

I will never return it, Philip, except one half.

PHILIP SCHUYLER

Cut it in two and we each will keep a half so long as we shall live.

(He and Gerrit worry with the soft silver until a case knife has split it in two pieces. He gives one to Margareta and puts the other in his pocket.)

Now be sure not to lose it for it will bring us luck.

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

To church! The time goes late.

(There is immediate bustle of preparation in the little household and the wedding procession passes out to the registry * for the ceremony. When everyone has gone, the servants return to make ready for the wedding feast. A table is spread. Musicians, to play for the dancing, possibly brought from New Amsterdam for the occasion, take their places and begin a prodigious sawing and scraping and tooting.)

The wedding party returns with the Rev. Megapolensis, and the wedding guests. The speelmeises and speeljonkers have long garlands of green which they wind around the newly married pair scattering green in their pathway as they come.

Margareta and Philip sit under the wedding crown, and receive the congratulations of their guests, many of whom bring presents.

Van Slichtenhorst comes forward with a large triple goblet in his hand, followed by Gerrit with a silver punch bowl. He fills the "clover leaf.")

The "Bride's Tears," I drink to your health a clover leaf, the triple cup, for as the saying is all good things go in threes, three graces, three cardinal virtues, three friends' kisses, but above all the trice clinking of the filled glasses! Three glasses are three drinks, three makes a clover leaf!

(He passes the glass to Van Twiller who empties it.)

JAN VAN TWILLER

He is a man, who without spilling can empty a clover leaf and still be thirsty.

(He fills it and passes it to the next man, meanwhile everyone now has a full glass, and to the clinking of their glasses sing the Drinkliedje appropriate to the toast. Some of the young people who are eager for the dancing to begin, do the steps of an Allemande to the Drinkliedje.)

(As the song ends, the servants come in procession bearing great plates of food, a dressed turkey in all its plumage, a pig's head, pastries, etc.—a hearty supper for a lusty feast.)

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

The wedding supper, Welcome my guests to the wedding supper.

(The supper is served with much gaiety, though the bride and groom still sit on their throne with great formality.)

REV. MEGAPOLENSIS

Now that we are all in a merry mood, I will pass around this paper so that you can all make a subscription to the poor.

(He bustles about from one to the other, so that no one can evade him.)

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

(Going to the bride and groom.)

My dear will you open the dance?

(Philip rises, presents his hand to his bride. The musicians play, and the bride and groom open the dance alone as was the custom.

The music changes and all take places for a round dance which is very lively. When the last figure is danced, Aeltje stands with a candle

* Presumably to the Patroon's trading house which was used as a church, and to which the Reverend Megapolensis had come from his new home in New Amsterdam, to perform the ceremony.

stick in her hand by the bride and sings a verse of the Bride's song. This is a signal for the bride's crown of flowers and green to be torn to pieces, every young person trying to get a piece for good luck.

Hand in hand all the guests in "een kring om de bruid dansen," and then away out of our sight.)

SCENE 5

BEVERSWYCK

1651

(The Council of Rensselaerwyck are in session. The Council are seated at a large table, Director Van Slichtenhorst presiding. Jan Baptist van Rensselaer has just arrived on a visit to the Colony. * A large number of the Burghers have come to do him honor.)

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

Jan Baptist van Rensselaer, first of that name to visit this country, in the name of the Council, I take this opportunity of welcoming you formally to the Colony.

As Director of Rensselaerwyck, in behalf of the Council, I earnestly entreat you, to accept the office of "Gerichts Persoon," in place of Rutger Jacobz who has asked to be relieved of his duties.

JAN BAPTIST VAN RENSSELAER

I accept with pleasure, Mons'r Van Slichtenhorst, the office of Magistrate, and will perform my duties with loyalty and fidelity, to the best interests of the Colony.

(He takes his seat with the other Councillors at the table.)

(Anthony de Hooges, the Secretary, fumbles with his papers and finally produces a long document.)

ANTHONY DE HOOGES

On this day the Council of Rensselaerwyck has resolved "that all householders and freemen of the Colony shall appear . . . at the house of the honorable director, and there take the burgerlijke oath † of allegiance to our noble Patroon, Johan van Rensselaers, in Amsterdam, before the Commissioners of the Colony of Rensselaerswyck.

You will stand, and with the uplifting of both the first fingers of the right hand, repeat the oath after me.

(The Burghers stand, raise their right hands, and as the Secretary reads, repeat the oath after him.)

I promise and swear

(They repeat)

that I shall be true and faithful to the noble Patroon and Co-directors, or those who represent them here

(They repeat)

and to the Honorable Director, Commissioners and Council, subjecting myself to the court of the Colonie;

(They repeat)

and I promise . . . as a loyal inhabitant to maintain and support offensively and defensively against everyone,

(They repeat)

the Right and Jurisdiction of the Colonie.

(They repeat)

* 18 October, 1651.

† 28 November, 1651.

And with reverence and fear of the Lord, I say, so truly help me God Almighty."

(The Burghers stand with bowed heads taking the oath very solemnly.)

(A disturbance is heard. * Joannes Dyckman, accompanied by a few followers, and three soldiers "armed with carbines and pistols," forces his way before the Magistrates.)

JOANNES DYCKMAN

While you are at your business of legislating, you can make a minute of this, Mr. Director. Read this proclamation from Stuyvesant to your Burghers.

BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

You enter my house, which is outside your jurisdiction, with an armed force. That is unlawful. Be gone, I say.

JOANNES DYCKMAN

I will not go! You will find that in this matter "force hath more to say than justice."

(He calls in more of his men.)

I have here placards which are to be published throughout the colony by the sound of the bell.

Ring the bell at the Fort!

(One of his men runs out. More of his men push their way in. The Burghers stand dumbfounded at his violence and insolence. Presently the bell is heard to ring, and the wondering citizens gather to see what is happening. Dyckman leaps upon the table and is about to read his placard. Van Slichtenhorst rushes up to him, tears the proclamation from him, and throws the seals upon the ground. The soldiers seize Gerrit who has run to his father's side beat him and drag him through the mud and mire. Dyckman urges them on.)

Let him have it now and the "duivel" take him.

(Philip Schuyler interferes to save his brother-in-law at which Dyckman draws his sword.)

Hands off, Philip Schuyler, or I will run you through!

(Some of the soldiers fire their muskets in the air. In the general fight that follows, Gerrit is rescued, and Dyckman roughly handled, and knocked down. He picks himself up, and collects his followers as best he can, then turns threateningly to the Magistrates.)

You shall suffer for this indignity!

JAN BAPTIST VAN RENSSELAER

"Go home good friends, 'tis only the wind of a cannon ball fired six hundred paces off."

(While the crowd is talking over the events just passed, Dyckman and his men return with a number of posts which they drive into the ground.)

JOANNES DYCKMAN

I declare the jurisdiction of Fort Orange, to extend within six hundred paces of the Fort. That no man shall plead ignorance thereof, I will erect posts to mark the boundaries.

(The men by this time are nailing the Company's placards to the posts.)

* 1652, when the Court was again in session.

BRANT AERSTEN VAN SLICHTENHORST

We owe no allegiance to Monsieur Stuyvesant. Tear down the placards.

(The Burghers with one mighty shout tear down the placards and uproot the posts.)

(Drum beats are heard in the distance. Stuyvesant and his soldiers march toward the crowd.)

PETER STUYVESANT

I come to adjust the differences between the West India Company and the colony of Rensselaerswyck.

I proclaim the area about the Fort to be a separate village. It shall be called Beverwyck. It shall have a separate court from that of the Patroon's Colony.

I proclaim Beverwyck independent of Rensselaerswyck. Sergeant Litschoe, you may lower the Patroon's flag.

(Sergeant Litschoe with a squad of soldiers marches through the crowd which parts sullenly, to the flagstaff upon which the Patroon's flag has flown since the days when Kiliaen van Rensselaer's agents purchased the land from the Indians. The soldiers discharging their firearms, the colors are lowered. The soldiers return to Stuyvesant and thence to the Fort.)

The people stand dismayed, and then scatter silently to their homes. Van Slichtenhorst is left alone. He stands with his head bowed, and then with a gesture of despair, turns to go to his house.)

SCENE 7

THE SURRENDER OF FORT ORANGE TO THE ENGLISH

1664

(A few soldiers of the garrison at Fort Orange, off duty, are amusing themselves, by playing Kolf, and the game of skittles.

A messenger, evidently just landed from a sailing vessel, runs in.)

JOHANNES DE DECKER

Call the people together! The garrison of Fort Orange and the people of Beverwyck and the Colony!

(The trumpeter blows a call. People run in from all sides, Vice-Director La Montagne and Jeremias van Rensselaer amongst them.)

Stuyvesant has surrendered! The English are coming!

(A man who has led in his horse, jumps upon his back, and rides off through the countryside, shouting loudly.)

RIDER

Stuyvesant has surrendered! The English are coming!

(The people hear his voice growing fainter and fainter in the distance. Colonel Cartwright appears with his staff and a small body of English soldiers.)

COL. GEORGE CARTWRIGHT

Deputy Governor de La Montagne.

JOHANNES DE LA MONTAGNE

I am the Vice Director.

COL. GEORGE CARTWRIGHT

I have here a letter for you, Sir, from Governor Nicolls, the Governor of the English Province of New York.

JOHANNES DE LA MONTAGNE

(Takes the letter, and reads it aloud to the people.)

"To the present Deputy-Governor, or the magistrates and inhabitants of Fort Aurania.

These are to will and require you and every one of you to be ayding and assisting to Col. George Cartwright in the prosecution of his Majesty's interest against all such of what nation so ever as shall oppose the peaceable surrender and quiet possession of the fort Aurania . . . wherefore you nor any of you are to fayle as you will answer the contrary at your utmost peril.

Given under my hand and seales att ffort James in New Yorke on Manhattans Island this tenth day of September 1664.

R. Nicholls."

I have read the order, I obey.

I surrender to you, for the Dutch West India Company, Fort Orange and the village of Beverswyck.

(He bows formally, and tenders his sword. Col. Cartwright bows in acknowledgment of the surrender.)

COL. GEORGE CARTWRIGHT

I accept your sword.

(They bow again and walk apart. The soldiers fire a volley.)

I name this township ALBANY, in honor of James Duke of York and Albany, to whom our gracious sovereign Charles the Second of England has given it as a token of his affection for his dearly beloved brother.

(The soldiers unfold the English flag, march to the flag staff and raise the new emblem to the strains of an English Patriotic Air.

The Dutch watch the whole ceremony stolidly and without emotion.)

EPILOGUE

THE CITY

1686

(Governor Dongan enters with the Charter. Pieter Schuyler and Robert Livingston, citizens of Albany, receive it from him.

As the Hymn to Albany is sung by the Chorus, the figure of Albany appears in the distance. Her citizens present her with the Charter.

The men and women of the past return to pay her homage. When they are grouped about her, she speaks.)

This Pageant vivifies the days of old,*
A tale of fearless men, of venture bold,
Who dar'd 'gainst ocean's might great enterprise,
For freedom, homes, and life 'neath alien skies.
They spurn'd the autocratic rule of Kings,
Service compelled the pang of mis'ry brings,
Nor would they bow to Prelacy's vain gaud,
Nor worship how themselves could not applaud,
So fared them forth to land beyond the seas,
Come weal come woe, to subsist as they please,
Thus to the Place beyond the Sandy Plain,
On the Great River's shore, the Walloons came.

* Written by *George H. Thacher*

Here White met Red Man, and his friendship sought,
Supremely gained by what the Native taught;
Learned of men's lives that Red Man's life alone,
To virtue was a truthful antiphone;
Learned how communes by nature's just decree,
And nations leagued in peace, in peace agree.
From seed thus sown in hearts of Pioneers,
The fruit of freedom sprang in after years.
Faint is the praise of them that till'd our soil,
Unwrit the hardship of their chosen toil.
Oft modest heroes fail of just renown,
While artful braggarts filch the golden crown.
'Tis splendor most attracts fair Clio's eyes,
Heedless of merit cloth'd in sombre guise,
Brave Knights, tourneys, lances laid in rest,
Romaunt, troubadors, roundelay and jest,
Ladies fair for whom the glittering sword,
Leaps from scabbard for guerdon of a word,
This the canvas that Hist'ry loves to paint,
Shades of sinners, with here and there a saint.
Far greater they who clave the wilderness,
And carv'd an heritage of happiness!

Pursuing a like progress zealously,
Guarding the goodly keepsake jealously,
Be it for us to cherish sacredly,
Mem'ry of those that left the legacy

(As she finishes her words, the Chorus sings "America the Beautiful" and the "Star Spangled Banner." Columbia attended by sailors and soldiers, in uniform, carrying the flags of the United States and New York State, enters.)

The Pageant actors pass before her, then away from our sight. Then she in turn leaves the Pageant grounds.)

CAST *

EPISODE I

SCENE 1

ERA OF THE RED MAN

EARTH MOTHER.....	Ida P. Haswell
HUNTER.....	Robert Pattinson
WARRIOR.....	Amos Prescott
MEDICINE MAN.....	Russell Lagrange
DAUGHTER OF EARTH.....	Anna C. Parker
FIRE KEEPER.....	Henriett Marchand
LEADER OF TRIBE.....	John Wagner
TRIBAL SINGER.....	Robert K. Colville
FIRST CHIEF.....	Harry O. Stevens
SECOND CHIEF.....	Arthur Hagy
THIRD CHIEF.....	John Hagy
FOURTH CHIEF.....	David Kirk
AKOLAKI.....	J. Frederick Lewis
FLUTE PLAYER.....	William G. Franke

WARRIORS

Herbert Champagne
J. Frederick Lewis
Daniel R. Dugan
Robert James Shillinglaw
Edward Reiter
Charles S. Walrath
John W. Ammenheuser
Henry O. Worthing
Robert E. Ten Eyck

Harry Stevens
Robert C. Pattinson
Norman E. Miller
Edward Van Bergen
Frank E. Scrafford
Borage E. Stiles
Harold Bellin
Clarence M. Weller
Morris Strain

Frank Miller

INDIAN WOMEN

Elizabeth Myers
Dorothy Lasher
Frances Cooper
Betty Halpin
Dorothy Elsworth
Marjory Elsworth
Neil Sargent

Ethel Moran
Mary Carrier
Ruth Pember
Marjorie Lockwood
Betty Newcomb
Doris Hoag
Louise Trask
Annette Nidetch

Marjorie Taylor
Barbara Baldes
Marion Broadhurst
Alice Hewson
Ida Collingbourne
Rietta Trimm
Florence Gooding

SCENE 2

FRENCH TRADERS

FRENCH SAILORS.....

{ Herbert Cook
Edward Cummings
Daniel C. Ross
William Collen
Henry Waldenberg

SINGER.....
INDIANS

Reynolds Becker

SCENE 3

HENRY HUDSON

HENRY HUDSON.....	Thomas C. Stowell
ROBERT JUET.....	Thomas Francis Woods
SHIP CARPENTER.....	Raymond Becker
INDIAN CHIEF.....	Robert K. Colville

* Some names are unavoidably omitted as the programme goes to press before the cast is complete.

ENGLISH SAILORS.....	{ Samuel Canter Walter Fleischer Daniel Althoff
DUTCH SAILORS.....	{ Richard Van Kampen Anthony Verhagen William Verhagen

SCENE 4

THE DUTCH TRADERS

JACOB JACOBSEN EELKENS.....	Winthrop Stevens
SACHEM.....	Robert K. Colville
SINGER.....	George Stoehr

SCENE 5

THE FIRST SETTLERS

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL.....	John B. Hague
CORNELIS JACOBSEN MAY.....	George C. Van Buren
DANIEL VAN KRIECKEBEECK COMMIS.....	A. A. McLaughlin
CATALINE TRICO.....	Dorothy Jean Flick
SINGER.....	Harriet Langdon Pruyn Rice
JORIS JANSEN DE RAPELJE.....	Raymond Becker

MEN

Stephen Bowers
William Kabeschat
Ashley Johnson

Benjamin Whittam
James E. Crouch
Ray Young Kirk
Benjamin H. Tracy

Joseph Briefstein
Edgar Meurs
Arthur H. Tracy

WOMEN

Mildred Lansley
Ruth Scrafford
Elizabeth Duke
Eleanor Stephenson
INDIANS

Ruth Gibson
Marion Larbey
Gertrude Wolfendale
Mary Sherritt

Ida Coy
Isabella Jamison
Mary Kent
Bernice Braun

DANCE INTERLUDE

DANSE MACABRE

DEATH.

HIS GIFTS TO THE RED MEN

I.

Mary Maar
Katherine Maar
Margaret Doughy
Ruth Kelly
Kathleen Doughy
Jane Skinner

II.

Evelyn Walsh
Louise Trask
Louise Welch
Elizabeth Welch
Katherine L. Gould
Lucy George

III.

Ruth Sutton
Harriet Parkhurst
Hortense B. Smith
Henriette Marchard
Gladys Lodge
Evelyn Lundy
Mary Elizabeth Williams
Maude Ludington
Evelyn Klopheus
THE RED MEN

IV

Ruth McNutt
Marjorie Greenman
Anne Haggity
Jessie Wayman
Hilda Sarr
Beatrice Martin
Betty Cole

EPISODE II

SCENE 1

THE PURCHASE OF THE LAND

BASTIAEN JANSEN KROL, COMMIS.....John B. Hague
 DIRK CORNELISSEN, ONDER-COMMIS.....Charles R. Waters
 SOLDIERS
 WORKING MEN
 KOTTAMACK.....Robert K. Colville
 NAWANEMIT.....Clarence M. Weller
 ABANTZEENE.....Frank Miller
 SAGISKWA.....Morris Strain
 KANAMOACK
 INDIANS
 INDIAN WOMAN
 INDIAN CHILD.

SCENE 2

ENGLISH INFRINGEMENT OF TRADE

HANS JORISSEN HONTHUM, COMMIS.....Thurlow Weed Barnes
 JACOB JACOBSEN EELKENS.....Winthrop Stevens
 A BOY.....Hancock Griffin
 ENGLISH SAILORS
 DUTCH MEN OF THE FORT
 INDIANS
 DUTCH SOLDIERS FROM FORT AMSTERDAM:

DUTCH WOMEN

Johanna Verhagen	Eleanor Weeber	M. Hogan
Johanna Hoekstra Van Kampen	Katherine Magill	Jane King
A. Van Mourik	Alice Blanchard	Ruth Jansen
Cora Salisbury	Ruth Gibson	Cornelia Potts

DUTCH CHILDREN

Gretchen Worthing	Barbara Avery
BUGLER.....	A. Von Denblick

SCENE 3

MEGAPOLENSIS PREACHING TO THE INDIANS

REV. JOHANNES MEGAPOLENSIS.....Rev. Jan A. Struyk
 MACHTELT WILLEMSSEN, his wife.....Nellie Belanus Struyk
 HIS CHILDREN.....{ Ruth Margaret Struyk
 Elmer Roy Struyk
 ARENT VAN CURLER, *Director*.....Thurlow Weed Barnes
 ANTONIA SLAGHBOOM, *his wife*.....Ruth Jansen
 ANTHONY DE HOOGES, *Secretary*.....Foster Pruyn
 FATHER ISAAC JOGUES.....Joseph Bastian, Jr.
 A SAVAGE.....Morris Strain
 MEN SINGERS.....{ Henry Van Kampen
 William Verhagen
 Carl van Walderveen
 William Vonk
 WOMEN SINGERS.....{ Alice Kriek Roor
 Jennie Collen
 Fannie Van Mourik
 Elizabeth Broers Verhagen
 MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN OF THE COLONY
 INDIANS

SCENE 4

THE COMPANY AND RENSSELAERSWYCK

PETER STUYVESANT.....	Reginald H. Wood
BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST.....	Thomas C. Stowell
CAREL VAN BRUGGE.....	William W. Long
INDIAN.....	Robert K. Colville
ANDRIES DE VOS.....	Edward Elmendorf Rankin
DRUMMER.....	A. J. O'Sullivan
SOLDIERS	
INDIANS	
MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN OF THE COLONY	

SCENE 5

THE MARRIAGE AT THE MANOR HOUSE

MARGARETA VAN SLICHTENHORST.....	Anna Hamlin*
PHILIP PIETERSEN SCHUYLER.....	Winthrop Stevens*
BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST.....	Thomas C. Stowell
GERRIT VAN SLICHTENHORST.....	T. Reed Vreeland
AELTJE LANSING.....	Cornelia Van Antwerp*
ALIDA LANSING (mother of Aeltje Lansing).....	Huybertje Lansing Pruyn Hamlin*
JAN VAN TWILLER.....	Clarence Egberts Newman*
ANTHONY DE HOOGES.....	Foster Pruyn*
REV. JOHANNES MEGAPOLENSIS.....	Rev. Jan Struyk
COENRAED TEN EYCK.....	Peter Gansevoort Dederick Ten Eyck*
ANDRES DE VOS.....	Edward Elmendorf Rankin*
GOOSSEN GERITSSSEN VAN SCHAICK.....	Isaac Henry Vrooman*
GERRITJE VAN SCHAICK.....	Charlotte V. P. Vrooman
BRIDESMAIDS.....	{ Grace Knox
	{ Carol Knox
SPEELMEISJES.....	{ Suzanne van Antwerp *
	{ Molly Healy
SPEELJONKERS.....	{ Ernest Miller
	{ Brayton Wilson
GUESTS:	
MARITJE EGBERTSE.....	Evelyn Egberts Newman*
ANNETJE WENDELL.....	Margaret Ten Eyck Pruyn*
ANNATJE VISSCHER.....	Olivia Shearman Talcott Pruyn*
ANNETJE DE WITT.....	Elizabeth Cushman Gorham*
TRYNTJE JOCHIMS (wife of Abraham Staets).....	Katherine Westerlo Van Rensselaer Arnold*
CATRINA PELS (wife of Evert Pels).....	Catherine Walsh Peltz*
DORITJE DOUW.....	Pauline de Peyster Townsend Hills*
CATALINE DOUW.....	Leontine Townsend Lansing*
LYSBET VAN BENTHUYSEN.....	Ethel van Benthuyssen*
MARIA VAN SCHAICK.....	Margaret Cleveland Tucker*
CORNELIUS MAAS VAN BUREN.....	George C. Van Buren*
GIRL FRIENDS OF THE BRIDE.....	{ Katherine Terry
	{ Grace Vander Veer *
YOUNG MEN.....	{ Barclay McClure
	{ Gaynor Keeler
	{ John Farnsworth
	{ William Alexander Winston
MUSICIANS.....	{ Robert Damain
	{ Peter Schmidt
	{ Frank E. Perkins
	{ William G. Franke
CHILDREN.....	{ Beatrice Pruyn *
	{ Catrina Vrooman*
HOUSEKEEPER.....	Ruth Jansen

*Descendants of Dutch settlers of this date.

SCENE 6

BEVERWYCK

JAN BAPTIST VAN RENSSELAER.....Dr. Howard Van Rensselaer
 BRANT AERTSEN VAN SLICHTENHORST.....Thomas C. Stowell
 ANTHONY DE HOOGES.....Foster Pruyn
 PHILIP PIETERSEN SCHUYLER.....Winthrop Stevens
 GERRIT VAN SLICHTENHORST.....T. Reed Vreeland
 ANDRIES DE VOS.....Edward Elmendorf Rankin
 JOANNES DYCKMAN.....William W. Long
 SERGEANT LITSCHOE.....Albert George Newnham

BURGHERS
 { Alonso Salisbury
 William Roor
 J. van Nouhuys

SOLDIERS
 COUNCIL
 COLONISTS

SCENE 7

SURRENDER OF FORT ORANGE TO THE ENGLISH

JOHANNES DE DECKER.....Clifford E. Van Buren
 VICE DIRECTOR JOHANNES DE LA MONTAGNE.....John A. MacGruer
 COL. GEORGE CARTWRIGHT, *English Officer*.....Major Ernest L. Miller
 CAPT. JOHN MANNING.
 CAPT. DANIEL BRODHEAD
 ENGLISH SOLDIERS

EPILOGUE

GOVERNOR DONGAN.....Mayor William S. Hackett
 PIETER SCHUYLER.....Chris Andrew Hartnagel
 ROBERT LIVINGSTON.....Robert Livingston
 ALBANY.....Faye Smiley Stowell
 COLUMBIA.....Katherine B. Graves
 U. S. SOLDIERS.
 U. S. SAILORS.
 ALL THE CHARACTERS OF THE PAGEANT.

THE FIRST AMERICANS

George H. Thacher

Out vasty space beyond most distant star,
Earthward a cloud was sent from world afar,
Enwomb'd in which was borne matur'd mankind,
When earth was fashion'd as Manitou design'd.
Hither flated, by kind Earth Mother led,
Throughout this paradise they quickly spread.
And here they lived, and loved and grew apace,
Learning life's meaning, as no other race.
They knew not how to lie, nor yet to steal,
Their dearest thought was for the others weal,
For noblest virtue was innate in them,
Grandly proud Ongwe-Oweh, Men of Men.
If 'tis not evil to be proud of pride,
In these Red Men no evil could reside.

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G. William McEwan
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Frederick E. Wadhams

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Cuyler Reynolds
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Albert Vander Veer
Newton B. Vanderzee

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William H. Sample
William H. Stoneman
William A. Wheeler
Chauncey P. Williams

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John M. Clarke
William G. Furlong
Charles Gibson
Carl H. Graf
William S. Hackett
George C. Hawley
Harlan H. Horner
Thomas Hun
C. Edward Jones
Frederick W. Kelley
Frederick McDonald
G. William McEwan
Roessle McKinney
Arthur C. Parker
Henry M. Sage
Alfred J. Sporborg
James Sullivan
Isaac Henry Vrooman, Jr.

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Albany, N. Y.

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